# The RING

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## MARCH, 1927

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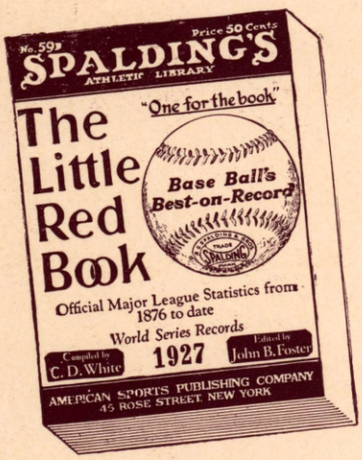


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PR

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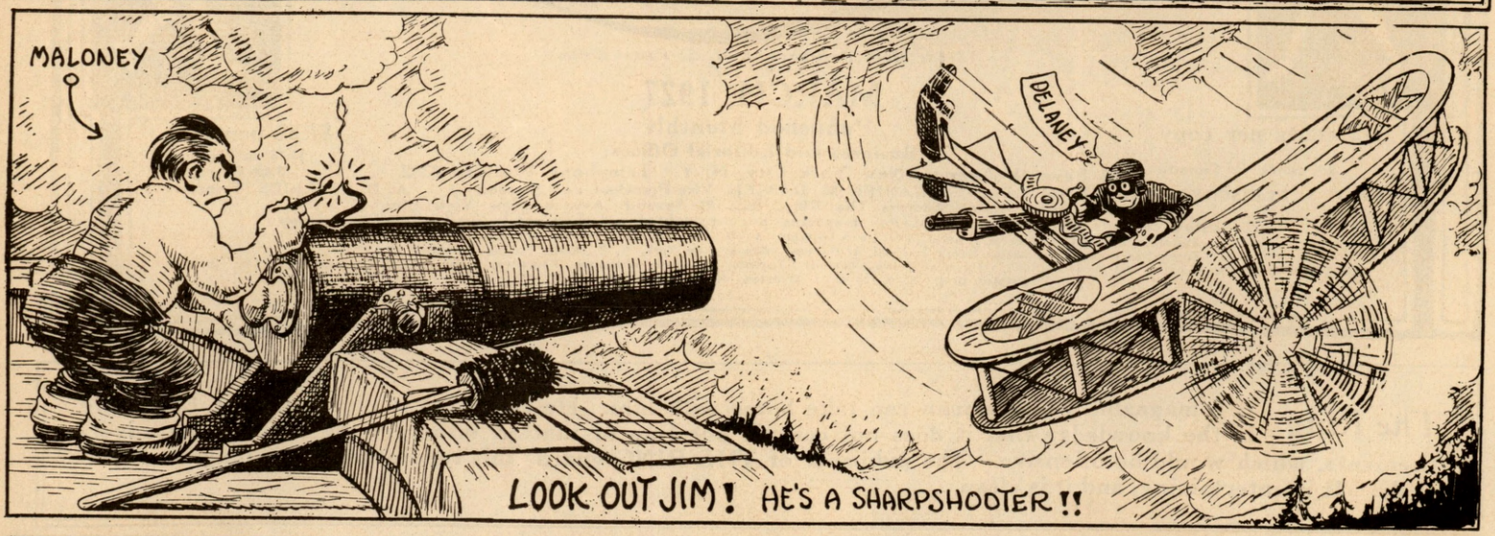
POKING FUN AT THE BOXERS
BY LANK LEONARD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DELANEY
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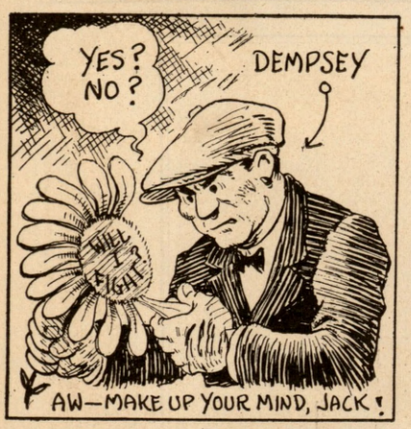
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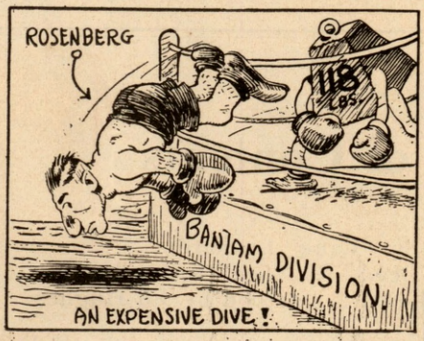
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HUDKINS
A
A MARKED CARD.

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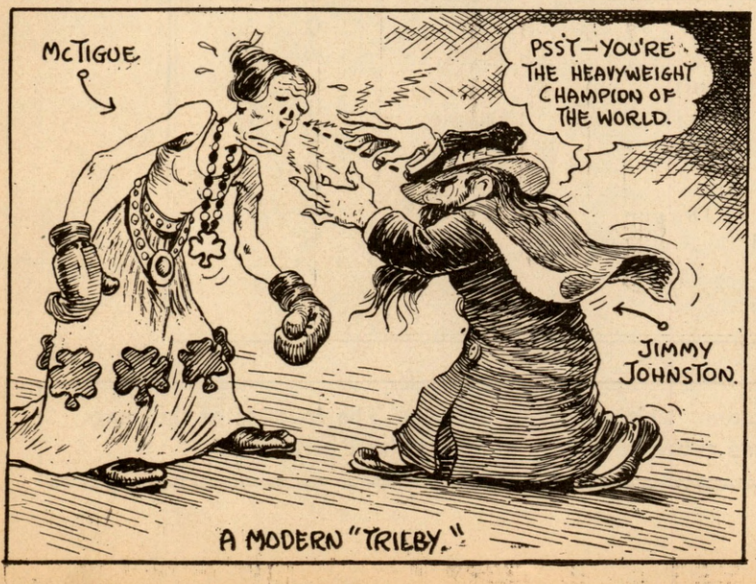
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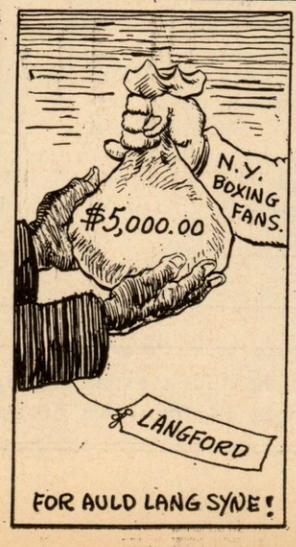
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# Tunney, Dempsey and Sharkey Lead in Rickard's Heavyweight Plans for 1927

By GEORGE L. "TEX" RICKARD

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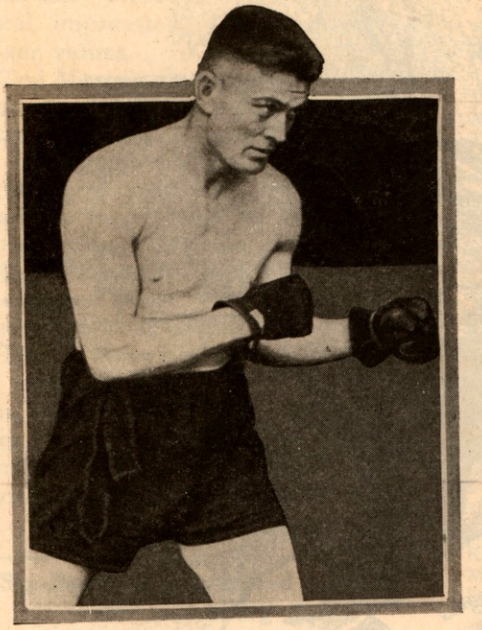
MY ranking list for 1926 was compiled on the basis of what the boxers accomplished last year. My new list is an up-to-the-minute rating of outstanding boxers on the basis of what they may do in 1927. It is my own promoter's guide.

For example, in my ranking for 1926



*Gene Tunney*

I did not place Jack Delaney among the heavyweights, but in my Potentialities for 1927 I have placed him in the heavyweight ranks. I also have designated him in the light heavyweight section.

Naturally, the greatest interest at this time centres in the heavyweight division. In all other classes I have contented myself with placing the boxers in groups. But in the heavyweight class I have given definite ranking to the first three—1. Gene Tunney; 2. Jack Dempsey; 3. Jack Sharkey.

### Tunney and Dempsey May Not Be Feature

This rating does not necessarily argue that I would regard a Tunney-Dempsey match as the outstanding attraction. I believe that Dempsey owes it to the public to re-demonstrate his fitness—that he must go into the heavyweight elimination tournament and not arrogate to himself any privileges which are not granted to Sharkey, Delaney or Maloney.

I have placed the best heavyweights, ten of them, in three classes. Behind the Tunney-Dempsey-Sharkey group I have bunched Delaney, Maloney and Paolino in Group 2. In the third division I have rated Young Stribling, Monte Munn and Jack Renault. It will be noted that despite his setback by Knute Hansen I still regard Munn as a potential figure in the heavyweight situation and that I designate him in the first ten to the exclusion of Hansen.

It is my opinion that we have before the public the finest lot of heavyweight fighters in the history of boxing. Of course the old timers are prone to tell us about the wonders of the past. I don't want to attempt to dim the glories of an era which had such good boxers as Fitzsimmons, Corbett, Jeffries, Sharkey, Maher and Ruhlin competing at one time.

### Modern Heavyweights Outshine Those of Old

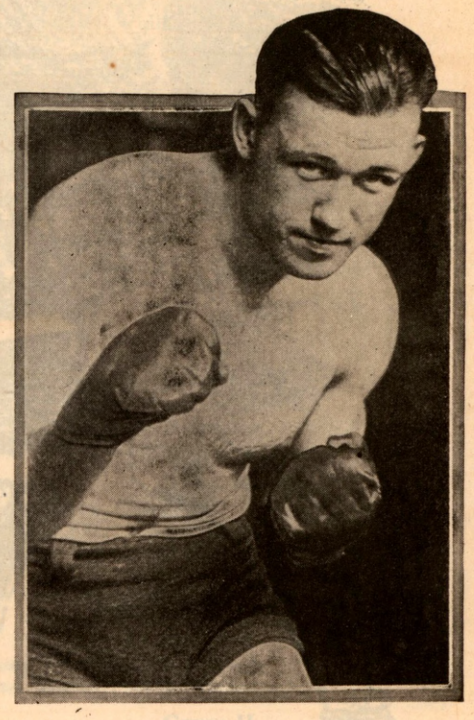
BUT it is my own impression that there is more real class in the three groups which I have compiled than there was in the list headed by Fitz. We are too close to the present to gauge our stars rightly. Incidentally, we are going to learn that in Tunney we have perhaps the greatest heavyweight champion the sport has developed.

So much for the heavies. They are going to make interesting history within the next year, and they are going to lift general interest in boxing to the highest plane it yet has attained.

Among the light heavyweights Delaney is absolutely supreme. Behind him I rate Tommy Loughran and Mike McTigue. In my second group I place Young Stribling and Jimmy Slattery. In Group 3 I rate Eddie Huffman, Jimmy Delaney and Martin Burke.

### Berlenbach-Delaney Talk Off As Paul Quits

TALK of another Delaney-Berlenbach fight has been killed by Berlenbach's decision to quit the ring, and he means it!

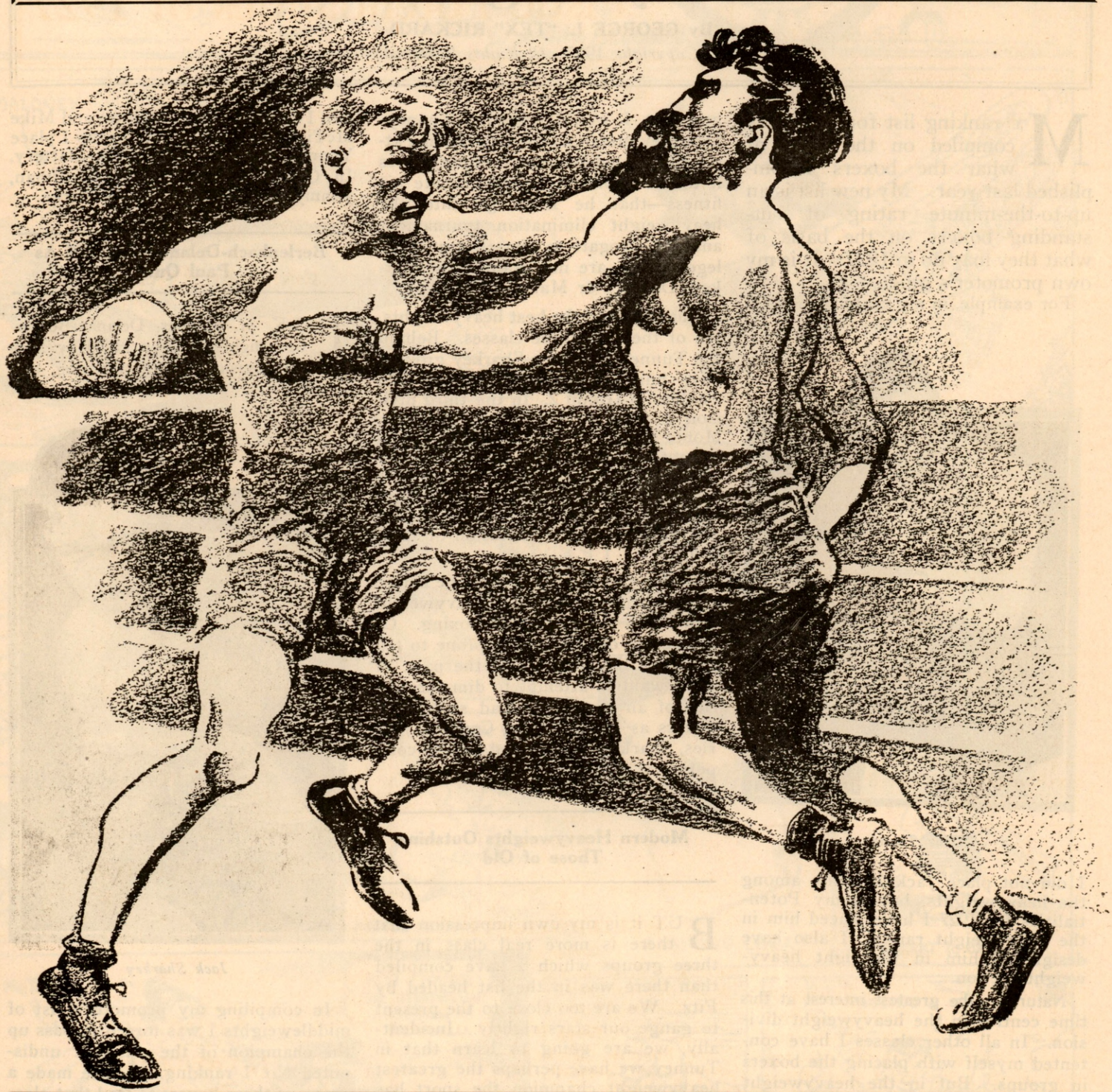


*Jack Sharkey*

In compiling my promoter's list of middleweights I was forced to pass up the champion of the class for undisputed No. 1 ranking. I have made a group of three boxers to lead that class —Tiger Flowers, Mickey Walker, the title holder, and Pete Latzo, welterweight champion. Since Latzo beat Walker for the welter title it may be that he also could beat Mickey as a middleweight. It is an intriguing question and the promoter likes to fondle it.

# When Rosenberg Whipped Graham

By Ed. Hughes



K. O. Phil Kaplan, Maxey Rosenblum and Dave Shade stand out as the second group among the middleweights, with George Courtney, Joe Anderson, Leo Lomski and Tommy Milligan as the third division. It would help boxing if this class became active soon, especially through the medium of a return fight between Walker and Flowers.

COMING to the welterweights, my promoter's list shows three outstanding cards—Latzo, champion; Joe Dundee and Eddie Roberts. This trio is pressed closely by group No. 2, with Ace Hudkins, Al Mello, Tommy Freeman and Georgie Ward. Then come Jack McVey, Willie Harmon and Jack Zivic. It is my impression that the year 1927 will see the welterweight division regain the glories which belonged to it in the palmy days of Tommy Ryan.

Going right down the line we hit the lightweight class, once second only to the heavyweight division in its popular appeal, and now deep in oblivion. The things which have happened to this division since Benny Leonard's retirement are a crying shame.

# 'Tex' Rickard's 'Promoter's List;' Fistic Potentialities of 1927

According to my view as a promoter, there are three leading heavyweights —Sammy Mandell, holder of the title; Sid Terris and Billy Wallace. It would be a great thing if this trio got busy and put some life into the division with a round robin.

Billy Petrolle, Stanislaus Loayza, Louis (Kid) Kaplan and Solly Seaman are my second group, with Phil McGraw, Ruby Goldstein and Bruce Flowers in Group 3. There is a lot of dynamite in all three divisions.

### Not a Ranking on Work in 1926, Rickard Emphasizes

AT this point I want to digress again, and once more remind the reader that this is not a ranking on the basis of work done in 1926. I have done that already. This is my personal impression, as a promoter, of boxer values.

Tod Morgan, Jack Bernstein, "Babe" Herman and "Honeyboy" Finnegan head the junior lightweight division. It is Morgan's ambition to win the lightweight title, but he isn't quite ready to retire from the division over which he reigns.

Carl Duane and Al Winkler give me a fine second group, with Ray Miller, Joe Glick and Mike Dundee in Group 3.

The featherweight division is topped by a good quartet—Benny Bass, Finnegan, "Red" Chapman and Charley Rosenberg. I look forward to assisting in unscrambling the mess in which this fine division has been in for the last year or so.

### Six Bantams Are Listed by "Tex" with Rosenberg Out

I HAVE rated only six bantamweights wtih Tony Canzoneri and Bud Taylor in Group 1. Bushy Graham, Archie Bell, Al Brown and Johnnie Green are my Group 2. Here's another class which needs action.

Competition among the flyweights got a fine impetus through the La Barba-Clarke bout. Frankie Genaro and Newsboy Brown belong in the top group, along with Fidel and Elky. There are ten flyweights worthy of ranking as leading attractions.

A summarization of the lists which I have presented indicates some of our divisions are falling into evil ways through failure of champions to defend their titles or through a falling off in general interest in those particular classes. The title holders must be smoked out and forced to fight or quit.

## HEAVYWEIGHTS

**Group I.**
Gene Tunney, New York. (1)
Jack Dempsey, Los Angeles. (2)
Jack Sharkey, Boston. (3)

**Group II.**
Jack Delaney, Bridgeport, Conn.
Paolino Uzcudun, Spain.
Jim Maloney, Boston.

**Group III.**
Young Stribling, Atlanta.
Monte Munn, Lincoln, Neb.
Jack Renault, Montreal.

## LIGHT-HEAVYWEIGHTS

**Group I.**
Jack Delaney, Bridgeport, Conn.
Mike McTigue, New York.
Tommy Loughran, Philadelphia.

**Group II.**
"Young Stribling, Atlanta.
Jimmy Slattery, Buffalo.

**Group III.**
Eddie Huffman, San Francisco.
Jimmy Delaney, St. Paul.
Martin Burke, New Orleans.

## MIDDLEWEIGHTS

**Group I.**
Tiger Flowers, Atlanta, Ga.
Mickey Walker, Elizabeth, N. J.
Pete Latzo, Scranton, Pa.

**Group II.**
K. O. Phil Kaplan, New York.
Maxey Rosenblum, New York.
Dave Shade, New York.

**Group III.**
George Courtney, Oklahoma.
Joe Anderson, Cincinnati.
Leo Lomski, Portland, Ore.
Tommy Milligan, Scotland.

## WELTERWEIGHTS

**Group I.**
Pete Latzo, Scranton, Pa.
Joe Dundee, Baltimore.
Eddie Roberts, Tacoma.

**Group II.**
Tommy Freeman, Cleveland.
Georgie Ward, Elizabeth, N. J.
Al Mello, Boston.
Ace Hudkins, Lincoln, Neb.

**Group III.**
Jack McVey, New York.
Willie Harmon, New York.
Jack Zivic, Pittsburgh.

## LIGHTWEIGHTS

**Group I.**
Sammy Mandell, Rockford, Ill.
Sid Terris, New York.
Billy Wallace, Cleveland.

**Group II.**
Billy Petrolle, Fargo, N. D.
Stanislaus Loayza, Chile.
Louis (Kid) Kaplan, Meriden, Conn.
Solly Seaman, New York.

**Group III.**
Phil McGraw, Detroit.
Ruby Goldstein, New York.
Bruce Flowers, New Rochelle.

## JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS

**Group I.**
Tod Morgan, Seattle.
Jack Bernstein, Yonkers.
Babe Herman, New York.
"Honeyboy" Finnegan, Boston.

**Group II.**
Carl Duane, New York.
Al Winkler, Philadelphia.

**Group III.**
Ray Miller, Chicago.
Joe Glick, Brooklyn.
Mike Dundee, Rock Island.

## FEATHERWEIGHTS

**Group I.**
Honeyboy Finnegan, Boston.
Benny Bass, Philadelphia.
Red Chapman, Boston.
Charley Phil Rosenberg, New York.

**Group II.**
Chick Suggs, New Bedford, Mass.
Joey Sanger, Milwaukee.
Babe Herman, New York.
Eddie Anderson, Wyoming.
Andre Routis, France.

**Group III.**
Eddie Shea, Chicago.
Johnny Farr, Cleveland.
Sammy Fuller, Boston.

## BANTAMWEIGHTS

**Group I.**
Tony Canzoneri, New York.
Bud Taylor, Terre Haute.

**Group II.**
Bushy Graham, Utica, N. Y.
Archie Bell, Brooklyn.
Al Brown, New York.
Johnnie Green, New York.

## FLYWEIGHTS

**Group I.**
Fidel La Barba, Los Angeles.
Newsboy Brown, Sioux City.
Frankie Genaro, New York.

**Group II.**
Willie Davis, Charleroi, Pa.
Izzy Schwartz, New York.
Ernie Jarvis, England.

**Group III.**
Alex Burley, Toronto.
Black Bill, Cuba.
Dave Adelman, Philadelphia.

# Up from the Mills to Leading Place Among Welters, Is Al Mello's Romance

By EDDIE BORDEN

ONE of the most promising fistic luminaries that have burst upon the pugilistic horizon in a quarter of a century is Al Mello of Lowell, Mass., the mill-boy south-paw, who has turned the welterweight situation topsy turvy. For Mello is a serious contender for the championship honors in that class and no one can tell a New Englander that the young Portuguese-American will not annex the 147-pound crown if he ever gets a chance to measure his speed, science and strength against the present holder, Pete Latzo.

Mello, under the capable management of Bobby Goldman, has had a most meteoric career. And the funny part of his sensational rise to fame is that he never thought he would be a fighter. It came about something like this. Lowell is one of the big textile centers of New England and at a very tender age Al went to work in one of the cotton mills. He was a mere boy, but chunky and solid for all that. During the noon hour every day the mill-boys engaged in every form of athletic exercise and boxing was among them. Someone had procured an old set of boxing gloves and every noon there were impromptu bouts with almost everybody participating—that is, everybody but Mello.

He liked to look on at the sparring exhibitions but he never donned the gloves himself. Finally, one day, the best boxer of the lot—the mill champion—walked up to the modest and retiring Mello and insisted that he try his hand at the game. Shrinkingly, Al did as he was bidden and from that day on he was a comer and finally succeeded in whipping the boss of them all, the fellow who had insisted that Mello try his hand at the former's favorite pastime.

### Enters Amateur Tourney

BUT even then Mello didn't seek new worlds to conquer. He just plodded along at his daily task and in the evening occasionally visited the clubrooms of the Lisbon A. C., an organization of young Portuguese-Americans. He improved at boxing, continued unabated and eventually John Souza, his chum, insisted that Al enter an amateur tournament at Lawrence, a neighboring city. He did, but he couldn't take the business of boxing seriously, so he just borrowed a pair of canvas "sneakers" and a pair of swimming tights and journeyed to Lawrence. It was his first public appearance, yet he knocked out the best amateur welterweight in New England in a punch.

That was in 1923, when he was 18 years old, and during the ensuing year he waded through the amateur ranks like wildfire, until in April of 1924 he reached the pinnacle of amateur glove fame by winning the National amateur welterweight title in Boston. That same year he was a member of the United States Olympic team and reached the third round of the world's amateur championships.

In the fall of that year—1924—he decided to cast his lot with the professionals and placed himself under the management of Bobby Goldman. There wasn't much doing in the mills and Mello was not above accepting a pick-and-shovel job in the streets of Lowell. Several famous managers attempted to place him under their managerial wings, but Mello had given his word to Goldman and he has never regretted his choice.

### Scores Quick Knockout

HIS debut was characterized by a one-round knockout of Billy Brewster and then he tackled the experienced Shaver O'Brien of South Boston and Mello proved his durability and boxing prowess by winning an eight-round decision.

Like ignited gunpowder he flashed. On New Year's Day 1925 he became a main-bout performer and stopped Martin Flaherty, Jr., son of the featherweight star of the 90's, in five rounds in Lowell. He successively met Frankie Quill three times, losing one bout on a foul, winning via the knockout route once and winning a decision; whipped Al Sears twice and stopped Phinney Boyle twice, licked Shaver O'Brien again quite handily and knocked out "Scoops" White in seven rounds. His first major bout was with Bob Lowrie of Scotland, whom he stopped in five rounds—the first time the Scot was knocked out in more than 200 bouts. He also won a decision over Lowrie and then was ready for the "Big Time" stuff in a big city.

Jimmy Jones of Youngstown, was secured as his opponent and what Mello did to the veteran in the 10 rounds they boxed was a plenty. And that was just three days short of a year since he had taken up boxing as a profession.

### Stopped Eddie Shevlin

EDDIE SHEVLIN, holder of the New England welterweight championship and one of the real ring masters of the game, succumbed in eight rounds and Morrie Schlaiffer of Omaha fell a victim to Mello's ability in January of 1926. Those three fights made him. Meyer Cohen of Holyoke, a member of the stable of Jimmy Bronson and Lou Brown was trounced at Holyoke, Mass.; Bob Lowrie was again beaten, and then Jack Zivic, the star member of the Bronson-Brown stable, was pitted against the onrushing ex-mill boy.

The bout went the limit, but Mello won the verdict. Kid Lee of Worcester was his next opponent. He was suffering from a grumbling appendix the night he fought Lee, but he beat Lee, although the officials presented Lee with the New England welterweight championship. Three days later Mello went under the surgeon's knife and underwent an enforced idleness for five months.

After a couple of unimportant bouts, to test his strength, Mello again took on Zivic and this time there wasn't any question as to his mastery over the former Pittsburgher.

So that a recapitulation of his professional record indicates that he has engaged in 24 bouts, 11 of which he has won by knockouts, 10 by decisions, one on a foul.

Mello is married and lives in Lowell, where he was born and where he worked in the mills, and in the streets of which he first received his insight into the art of boxing.

### Handled by Goldman

LUNCH for Mello himself. Now for Bobby Goldman, who has developed and piloted him into the frontier of welter contender. Here's how Goldman tells the story of his first association with Al:

"Luck plays an important part in life, very often, and it was luck that turned Mello into my hands. One day, back in 1924, a dark-skinned youngster drifted into a Boston gymnasium. It was late, and the gym was practically deserted. The youngster was Mello. At that time, he was an amateur, unknown in Boston rings.

"The youngster looked around the gymnasium, and his glance fell upon a friendly face 'Say, I'm training for an amateur tournament,' Mello said. 'Will you help me out today?'

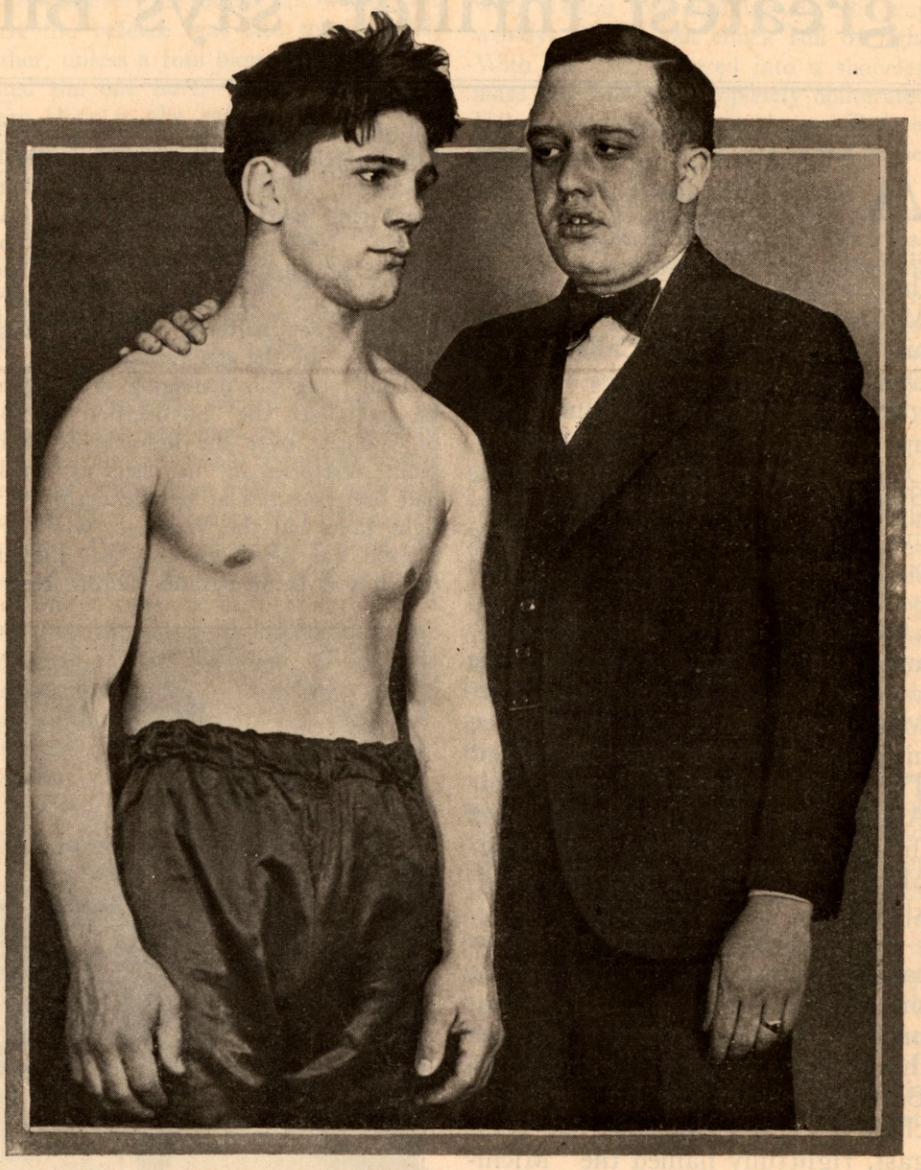
"I was the stranger, my work for the day was done, so I pitched in, bandaged the hands of the young welterweight, and sent him through the best workout the latter had ever enjoyed. That was the beginning of our relationship. A few days later, the tourney was held, and with me in his corner, Mello pounded his way to victory and a new watch.

"At the time, I was busy with a string of fighters. I had started in the boxing game with Tony Palazola, a newsboy like myself, who managed, and still manages, Paul Doyle and many other fighters. I handled Jack Britton, welterweight champion of the world, in his knockout victory over Eddie Shevlin; directed Joe Lynch, former bantamweight champion, Jabez White, Abe Friedman, and many more prominent pugilists.

### Helped as a Favor

"ALL that work took up time, and it was natural that I should pay scant attention to Mello. I helped him in that one tournament purely as a favor, and then forgot about the youngster. A few months later, the national amateur championships were being held in Boston, and Mello sought me out and asked me to prepare him for the affair. He promised that if he won his class, he would turn professional under my direction.

# Contender and Manager



*Al Mello and Bobby Goldman*

"Mello won the amateur welterweight championship of the United States in 1924. Then he invaded Europe, to compete in the Olympic games. He reached the semi-final round before a poor decision eliminated him. He returned to the country some time later, and seeking me once more, asked me to direct him in his venture as a professional.

"That started a combination which I expect will lead to the welterweight championship of the world for Mello. Under my direction, the Lowell welterweight has taken part in 24 professional bouts, of which he has lost one on a foul and another on a decision which almost put the sport of boxing on the rocks in Massachusetts.

"I have other fighters, a flock of them, whom I am attempting to bring along. But my heart and soul is in the Lowell youngster who asked my help in a Boston gymnasium. Mello stepped into fame when he knocked out Eddie Shevlin and won the New England welterweight title. It is significant that Shevlin has been knocked out twice in his career, once by Britton and once by Mello, and on each occasion, I was in the opposite corner. Since beating Shevlin, the New England 147-pounder has battered down Jimmy Jones, Morrie Schlaifer, Meyer Cohen, and Jack Zivic. And now I am looking ahead, to the time when Mello will meet Pete Latzo for the world's title."

# 40 round victory of Wolgast over Nelson greatest thriller, says Billy McCarney

**By Billy McCarney**

AFTER watching the glovemen cavort about the squared circle for nearly forty years, singling out the BEST FIGHT of the various great fights. Terry McGovern figured in two of them—his battles with Tim Callahan and Oscar Gardner.

Peter Maher and Gus Ruhlin put up a thriller, brutally, thrilling. Dick O'Brien and "Mysterious Billy" Smith brought similar tinglings. Bob Fitzsimmons thumping out Gus Ruhlin was another that warmed the cockles of the heart. Luther McCarthy's eighteen rough and tumble rounds before he knocked out Al Palzer, had a personal appeal to me, as it was the high spot in my managerial career. The complete annihilation of Luis Angel Firpo by Charley Weinert thrilled me. So did the Phil Krug-Mickey Walker and the Ace Hudkins-Ruby Goldstein battles.

All of these and many of similar caliber I must pass up in favor of the really greatest battle—that memorable forty rounder between the then champion of lightweights, Battling Nelson and his persistent challenger, his Nemesis, Ad Wolgast, rightfully named the "Michigan Wildcat."

### Nelson-Wolgast the Big Bout

IN selecting the Nelson-Wolgast battle as the greatest I have ever witnessed, I do so after giving all the scraps of prominence I have seen, due thought They all had their high spots. In the Nelson-Wolgast affair there were no low spots. It was a succession of thrills from the time the men were spoken of as prospective opponents over the Marathon route, of 45 rounds. This was the championship distance in California, fifteen to twenty-five years ago.

There was plenty of ill feeling between the men, engendered by the great showing Wolgast had made against Nelson, in the Summer of 1909, when they met in a bout scheduled for ten rounds, without decision, at Naud Junction Arena, Los Angeles. Wolgast was practically unknown, though he had been doing great ring work around Southern California. Nelson accepted him as an opponent not knowing how he had been coming along. To the surprise of everyone Wolgast battered Nelson through the whole of the ten rounds.

Tom Jones was managing Wolgast and he capitalized the "no decision" victory of Wolgast over the lightweight champion. Victories in "no decision" battles had been sneered at by the majority of fight fans, but the Wolgast "win" over Nelson was taken seriously and the fact that it was being paraded before Nelson everywhere he appeared in his theatrical work goaded the champion on to such fury, that he was seeking a return meeting with the Michigan lad.

*Ad Wolgast*

### Wolgast Knew the Distance

WOLGAST had been tipped off that Nelson was going to demand that the battle be one of 45 rounds when he next hooked up with Ad. The place where Nelson was the greatest box-office attraction was San Francisco, so Tom Jones took steps to properly introduce Wolgast to that city. He sought and secured a match with the leading lightweight of the Bay City, Lew Powell, then being groomed for the shot at Nelson for the championship. Wolgast easily defeated Powell in twenty one sided rounds. Nelson was thus placed in the position of having Wolgast rated in San Francisco as the leading challenger for his title.

Every promoter around San Francisco sought the battle between Nelson and Wolgast, but Sid Hester, known as "The Boy Promoter" landed the prize and staged the bout over in Point Richmond, eight miles across the bay from San Francisco. They fought on Washington's Birthday, February 22, 1910. Nelson and Wolgast, so bitter were they towards each other, clashed on the street, cooler heads stepping in before any damage was done. In their interviews by the sports writers, while training, the men could not talk of themselves. They took up all their time roasting the other fellow. Wolgast branded Nelson as a "tin eared boob" and "a cheese champion." Nelson was no way backward in labeling Wolgast as "the sour krout eating bozo;" "the lily of the valley of dubs;" "road house champion who spends his time lifting 'em up while I knock such stiffs down and out."

### Arena Built on Swamp

THE men were to fight in an open air arena, built on reclaimed swamp land. Rain is not plentiful at that season, in fact it had not rained on February 22 for eleven years. BUT it did rain on February 22, 1910. It seemed that all the rain that had been passing up the birthday of our first president, fell on that particular day. It DID rain. It poured down in torrents. The best evidence of what the fans thought about the meeting of Nelson and Wolgast was that $40,000 worth of the fans made the trip across the bay in the falling torrents of rain to sit in at the ringside to see the fight out. It was thought by the promoter that the fighters might decline to fight under such terrible weather conditions, but he was all wrong.

They were so anxious to get at each other they would have fought in snow shoes. Here was a real grudge fight, and with a championship at stake, what could

be more to the liking of the dyed-in-the-wool fight fan. What did a case of pneumonia mean compared with witnessing such a fistic classic. The ardor of the fans was not damped by the boat ride to the fight sight, but was rekindled as the opposition forces each started shouting the praises of their respective standard bearer. Mix-ups on the boat and in the arena were common occurrences. The fans were fighting mad. So were the principals in the championship battle. To get into the arena, the fans had to do a broad jump to reach the entrance. There were many spills, those who were short on the jump splashing into the running stream of water that encircled the newly built arena.

Fate plays queer pranks. Here was one of its queerest quips. After raining for twenty hours, serving to keep away those of a real timid nature, the sun burst forth just as the two principals in the championship fight entered the ring. Nelson was carried through the mud to the ring on the back of Abdul, The Turk, his faithful trainer. Tom Jones, then a healthy broth of a lad, carried Wolgast to the ring, as he would have carried a new born babe.

### Those Wicked Glances!

NO sooner had they faced each other across the ring than they started casting wicked glances at each otoher, each mumbling scathing imprecations. If all the evil each was wishing to be heaped on the head of the other came to pass there would have been no fight. The Almighty would have been busy filling the job each was asking to be done on the other. There had been no argument about the referee. Tom Jones had wanted Jack Welch to do the judging of the men's merits, but Jack Welch was a high priced ring official and the promoter told Jones that if he wanted Welch he could pay for him.

The club's official referee was "Oakland Eddie" Smith, sport editor of the Oakland Tribune, one of the best I have ever seen referee a boxing bout. He was called "Oakland Eddie" to distinguish him from Ed Smith, of Chicago, another famous third man of the ring.

When Smith called the men to the center of the ring for final instructions, each started to gabe away on his own account. John R. Robinson, manager for Nelson, who had been the one who had been most instrumental in keeping some sort of peace between the men during the making of the match and the training days and just before they entered the ring, tried to silence Nelson. So did Tom Jones use his efforts to quiet Wolgast. Neither was too successful. What each of the fighters was trying to impress on Referee Smith was that fouls did not count.

### No Fouls to Count

EACH man was to be permitted to do whatever the other fellow did, but that the referee was not to disqualify either, unless a foul blow really incapacitated the one hurt. Also it was made very clear to the referee by both men and their handlers that he was not at any time to put his hands on either of the boxers. He never had to touch them.

They were fighting what was then known as "straight rules," which meant that the fighter took care of himself at all times in the ring, fighting himself into and out of clinches. There were no clinches in the whole forty rounds of gruelling, slugging, wicked fighting. To make a clinch one man must be holding to protect himself, while trying to prevent the other fellow from fighting. There was none of this. They were both fighting all the way. They did about everything not allowed, as well as allowed, they slugged and waled away at each other until it seemed no human could stand up under the strain. The twentieth round was reached and passed with little to choose between them. Both were well decorated, but Nelson was much the worse for wear and tear.

In the twenty-second round, Nelson hung a solid right hand punch on the chin of the scrappy Dutchman, and down he went like he was shot. Down right in his tracks. Nelson might have won the fight right here, had he not been so supremely confident of taking the measure of Wolgast and took time out to wave up to the motion picture machine, yelling at the top of his voice, "It's a round earlier than I said, but it's close enough." Nelson had been saying all along that he would rock Wolgast to sleep in his lucky 23rd round. That was the "skidoo" round for his opponents, according to Nelson.

WHILE Bat was doing his waving to the picture men and yelling, Wolgast climbed up his legs and held on for dear life, but only for two or three seconds. This was the nearest approach to a clinch in the whole battle, but it lacked the element of a real clinch, as Nelson was fighting Wolgast off, punching him all over the ring as soon as he got him free. Wolgast took it all. No one there knew how he stood up under the battering Nelson dealt out to him for a full two minutes, but to the surprise of everyone, Nelson included, Wolgast came back like a demon in the closing twenty seconds of the round. He carried Nelson right off his feet.

From then on it was a case of dog eat dog. Never have two humans taken and given what those two dealt out to each other, but Wolgast was master of the situation until the bout was stopped, with Nelson still plunging ito the fray, weakly, blindly, but chuck full of fight. With his face battered into a shapeless mass, his features completely obliterated, Nelson protested furiously to Referee Smith when he shoved him to his corner a loser.

Deprived of his championship without ever having been on the floor. Never had he been knocked down. It was something new in California ring life to see a champion's title taken away from him, unless counted out. Now that the years have taken the sting away, Nelson, I judge, will agree that Eddie Smith acted wisely.

### Bat Was Weakening Fast

THERE were still five rounds to go, Wolgast going strong and Nelson weakening fast. There might have been a fatality. The bout went ten rounds too long as it did, for Wolgast was dealing out terrific punishment from the 25th to the 30th round, but Nelson was always the aggressor. He never would let Wolgast get around to being the one to make the fight.

It is seventeen years ago that these two men fought it out. On my recent visit to California I met many who had been at the ringside the day Bat and Ad fought. It still lives green in their memories, just as it does in my limited mental space. It would be hard to find, to-day, two men who could bury their commercial spirit deep enough to warrant them staging a battle with the many thrills, the heart rending appeal, of those two sterling gladiators. It will always stand out in my mind as the greatest of great ring battles.

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### "TO THE LOSER"

By John D. Sullivan

*OF course, the world loves a winner;*
*A champ, they always will aid;*
*But what of the other game fellow,*
*Who couldn't quite make the grade?*

*HIS was the fight of a hero*
*Against the heaviest odds;*
*But when the battle was over,*
*The Champion got the "Nod."*

*HIS was the fight of a gamester,*
*As the Champion dimmed his hopes;*
*For he fought with redoubled fury*
*As he felt his back to the ropes.*

*SO when you cheer for the winner,*
*As you see ring history made,*
*Don't forget to cheer for the loser,*
*Who couldn't quite make the grade.*

# Fugazy Arena In Brooklyn To Be a Model

By JIM WOOD

THE Fugazy Arena, with a seating capacity of 30,000 and mechanical equipment making it the ultimate in Sportland construction, will welcome the next indoor season. Determined to conduct boxing on a year round basis Humbert J. Fugazy has finally selected a site in the central part of Brooklyn at DeKalb Ave., Hudson Ave. and Navy Street, where this most modern arena will be within a short block's walk of every subway line.

Besides boxing the Fugazy Arena will include in its list of activities hockey, bicycle racing, and track meets. It also will be constructed to embrace a circus, a horse show and other exhibitions that require the care of animals or the temporary construction of paraphernalia. In fact the floor space will be of such proportions that a small city can be erected within its walls for exposition purposes.

Fugazy submitted his ideas to a foremost firm of architects some time ago and a corps of experts has been tussling with the task of giving Brooklyn the greatest of all indoor arenas. The final report exceeded even his most enthusiastic expectations advancing possibilities beyond the range of his vision. Profiting by the mistakes and oversights of the past the architects promise Fugazy an arena letter perfect in appointments, supreme in comfort qualifications and beautiful in constructional design.

### Boxing Will Be Featured

SPEAKING of the new project recently Fugazy said:

"Boxing, of course is my pet. I've realized that it's unfair to ask boxers to work for me at outdoor shows and then have nothing to offer them indoors. I will continue to operate outdoors and with my new arena carry on through the winter months. I will also attempt to give the fans all varieties of indoor professional and amateur sport on a big-time scale. I'm certain this new arena will please the fans as much as the plans for it please me, and I'm certain also, that it will boost all indoor sports to a new high level."

"The cost of the arena complete will be between $5,000,000 and $6,000,000, and the present plans call for the actual building to start on March 1st, to be ready for Nov 1st. In addition to the many attractions that will be offered from time to time the new arena will provide Brooklyn with one of the biggest broadcasting in the country."

"A swimming pool will be opened in the basement of the building that will provide entertainment for the public and allow competition. It will be one of the biggest swimming pools in the country."

FUGAZY'S BROOKLYN ARENA

# Boxing in Europe

**By "SPARROW" ROBERTSON**

Paris, February 6.
(*Special Correspondence of* THE RING)

FROM present indications, boxing in Europe during 1927 is going to be most prosperous from all angles. The sport is constantly growing in popularity throughout the whole of Europe. It can be said safely that while boxing is conducted generally in a very capable manner, in about all of the European countries, the control of the game is more perfect in France, than probably any where else on this side.

Paul Rousseau, who is head of the French Federation is a very able man and he is respected by everyone that is connected with the sport. Jeff Dickson, the American promoter who controls the two leading boxing arenas, the Salle Wagram and the Cirque de Paris, has done considerable to place the game on a sound footing in Paris.

He is the only promoter that has been able to make a financial success, and also a competitive one since the war. All of the other promoters were compelled to throw up the sponge so to speak.

During the present year and up to within a close date of the 1928 Olympic Games at Amsterdam it is the intention of Mr. Dickson to promote Amateur boxinfi at the various weights, and for the final prize give the winners a trip to Amsterdam to represent France in the world's Olympic championship bouts. Would that not be a good idea for old boy Tex to put across for the Amateurs of America? It would be a big lift to the Amateur Athletic Union in a financial way.

### Clark's Defeat a Blow

THE defeat of Elky Clark by La Barba, was an awful blow to the followers of English boxing, especially when the defeat was administered in such a decisive manner by the Los Angeles boy. The writer who had seen both boys fight predicted La Barba as a sure winner ten days prior to the fight. There is a boy in France who I think can defeat any one at the weight La Barba and Clark fought. I refer to "Spider" Pladner. He is a real fighting machine, and one that knows all the tricks of the trade. Five professional fights is all that he had up to the end of January, and he won them all by knockouts in the early rounds. When he fights in the States which will be in the near future he will bear watching.

Phil Scott, the English champion heavyweight has been knocking over a lot of stiffs recently. He has plans made for a trip to America, but that he will not get very far with the hardy heavies that he will be required to meet in the States is my opinion.

In Germany boxing is going along in leaps and bounds and some good material is sure to crop up in the near future out of the thousands of young fellows that have taken up the sport as a profession.

### French Boxing Notes

THE boxing tournament which was run off by promoter Dickson for the benefit of French soldiers that were wounded in the face during the war was a big success. There was one title bout fought, and all of the other fights with the exception of an exhibition given by Georges Carpentier, and the former American sailor Jack Walker were on the level. The boys fought for about half the regular rates, and for once, a real boxing benefit was run off, all the profits going to the worthy cause for which the benefit was given.

Tirelli, who some years ago was somewhat of a boxer, is the originator of the idea of founding an organization of those who have been associated with boxing in France in the past. The organization counts among its members Dumas, Niemen, Diament, Gloria, Robur, Papin, Descamps, Prie, Rochette, Bernstein, Criqui, Blazy, Ponthieu, Ray, Balsac, Lerda and Thietard.

It is getting to be quite a fad now at the French boxing entertainments to give primes to the fighters, and quite frequently the boys receive about as much in primes as they do in purse money.

During a recent series of bouts at the Cirque de Paris, a trained pig broke loose down in the cellar and rambled up to the ring side seats. Mr. Pig created quite a sensation especially among the women folks, many of whom hopped up on chairs.

Marcel Nilles, the former French heavyweight champion is back in harness and he is signed up for a bout in Berlin, and one in Italy. Nilles is a splendid physical speciman, but he has not shown that he can take it as well as it might be expected, but he does not lack gameness. He is a very fine fellow and his many friends wish him luck in his come back stunt.

### New Italian Marvel

GENERAL DESCAMPS has signed up the new Italian heavy-weight Riccardo Bartazzolo as a member of his fighting army. The General considers his new heavy-weight a much better man than Paolino ever was.

Charly Sauvage, the French bantamweight recently knocked out the champion of Flanders in two rounds at a bout held at Lille, France. Sauvage is a very clever boxer and he can take it from the hardest hitters without flinching.

There is a new heavyweight in France by the name of Giverny, who is beginning to make good. Experts predict that with another year of experience he will make the best of the European heavyweights sit up and take notice.

There are some very good boxers in the French army, who are seldom seen outside of the military camps. The French army officers encourage boxing to a great extent and lots of good material is bound to come out of the military ranks.

Eugene Crique, the former world's champion featherweight is planning to take another team of French boxers to South America in the near future. Gene did very well last year with his little squad of four boys, and the South Americans persuaded Gene to return again this year.

### Notes from England

AMONG the many old timers that we witnessed at the graveside of the late "Peggy" Pettinson, were Alf Mitchell, a one-time middleweight champion, Jack Donohue, the first British boxer to oppose successfully a French opponent of La Savate; Pedler Palmer, Jack Kingsland, Joe Booker, ex-world's champion, and many other well known amateurs and professionals.

Ernie Jarvis, London flyweight, who was in the States recently, easily outpointed the former European champion Michel Montreuil in a fifteen round bout fought at the London Ring. Montreil, who is a Belgian by birth has been fighting since 1914, and it was in 1923 that he won the European title by defeating Andre Gleizes of France. He was pretty well all in as a fighter when defeated by Jarvis.

Frank Brown and Billy Bird, after fighting twelve rounds at the National Sporting Club London, the latter part of January were stopped by the referee for continually clinching and the bout was called no-contest. The fighters received no renumeration for efforts during the twelve sessions.

The new Boxing Syndicate in London in its articles of agreement, was in big letters:— "Any boxer who may be disqualified for fouling, be it either intentional or otherwise will forfeit his entire part of the purse and the amount will be turned over to some charity."

### New English Champion

THE new feather-weight champion of England, Johnny Cuthbert is one very clever chap. He is a Sheffield lad and is managed by Johnny Sharpe who by the way is well known in America. Sharpe has the Yankee methods of training and in addition to the champion he has several exceedingly useful fighters in his stable.

Joe Beckett, the Fred Fulton of England, wants another opportunity of a come back. The last knockout for Joe was when he was shadow boxing while training for the match he had against Phil Scott, while making a hard right hand swing for "Kid" Shaddow, he fell to the floor of the ring and was counted out. So Joe holds the world's record of knocking himself out.

The new boxing syndicate in London, appear to care nothing about the British Board of Control, and it is going along doing just as it pleases. The new organization has good backing and many interesting boxing programs will be given during the season by the syndicate.

The new English boxing syndicate will not use any colored boxers. The American Al. Brown made application for a bout from the syndicate but there was nothing doing for the clever little Panama fistic artist.

### Belgian Notes

SOME exceedingly good fighters have come out of Belgium during the past few years. Up to a couple of years ago Arthur Wyns, was quite a clever featherweight and he held the championship of Europe for a considerable length of time.

There is a very good feather-weight in Belgium at present, he is Scillie and holds the championship of his country. Then there is Joe Claes the light-weight champion of Belgium who is doing very well.

(*Continued on page* 28)

# Veteran Corrects Jeffries on Certain Items Concerning Battles with Fitzsimmons

By CHARLES F. MATHISON

IT is a fair assumption based on inspection of literary efforts of various retired heroes of the roped square that they neglected to take notes and depended on more or less treacherous memories. In fact many of the observations would indicate that the historians were suffering from apha ia in a severe form.

We do not desire to intimate that any of these pugilistic litterateurs would deliberately misstate the facts of ring history, and the faults must therefore be ascribed to defective memories. I feel sure that the compilers will be grateful for information setting them aright in reference to notable events of pugilism and accordingly I have written to James J. Jeffries, in reference to his epochal victory over the late Robert Fitzsimmons.

This event took place at the Coney Island A. C. June 9, 1899, Jeffries winning by knockout in the 11th round. Herewith is a copy of my note to the former champion:

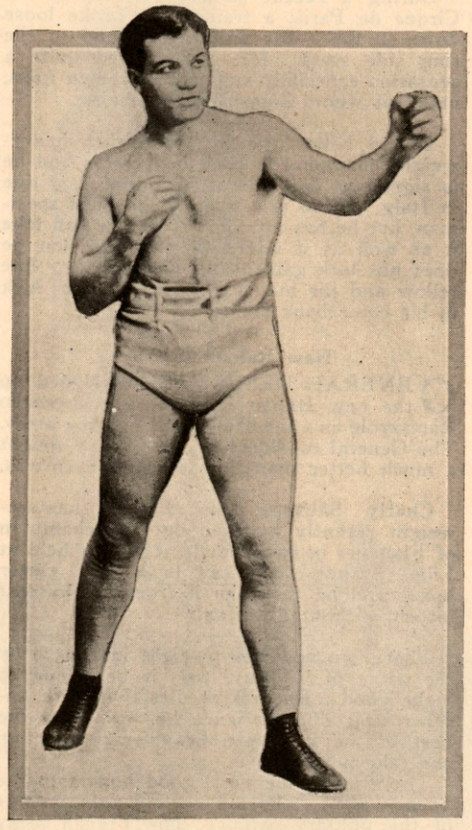
"Dear Jeff: I doubt if anyone watched your contest with Ruby Robert more closely than I and I feel sure you will not be affronted if I call your attention to the thrilling fourth round of that battle. I feel sure you would not desire to do injustice to Fitz who has passed on, and I am confident that your omission to mention the fourth round was due entirely to a trick of memory.

Up to the fourth round the advantage was all with you. In the second session Fitz's face collided with your left and he sat down hard on the ring floor. He seemed ill at ease thereafter and did not sit down in his corner for several rounds thereafter. It seemed to irk him to take a sitting position.

### Jeff Won The Third

THE third round also was yours by a wide margin, as Fitz apparently was unable to reach you with any of his customarily effective blows. He seemed to be trying to reach your jaw with right hand swings that went high over your head, as you crouched forward.

The fourth round was a repetition of the third up to within thirty seconds of the bell. Just at that point Fitz feinted with his freckled left at your face, and you knowing the power that lay in Fitz's left, straightened up and raised your guard to protect your jaw. But the left never left its moorings. On the other hand, Fitz sent a crashing right hander that landed with a terrific thud on your ribs just over the heart. Yes, Jeff, as you read these lines I can almost see the light of returning recollection in your eyes.



*Jim Jeffries*

### Pitched on His Face

WELL, to go on with the story, you bent forward from the force of the blow and seemed about to pitch on your face, but with a great effort you remained on your feet and resumed the crouch that Tommy Ryan taught you to use. If ever a man was ready for a knockout finishing punch it was you at that moment. Yet the blow, coming like a bolt from the blue, was not nearly so astonishing as the actions of Fitz. That redoubtable killer was known for his ability to finish an opponent in quick order the instant he had landed one of his trusty wallops. Instead of stepping in and planting a few more in the same spot or thereabouts, Fitz stood off, and looked you over till the bell ended the round and you wabbled unsteadily to your corner.

Billy Delaney and Tommy Ryan became active to a high degree in an effort to resuscitate you, and all the spectators were amazed when they saw you stretch your feet straight out and rest your head against the ring post, so that you were as nearly in a recumbent position as possible unless a folding bed had been provided for your occupancy. Unfortunately no moving pictures were taken of the fight or you would not have forgotten the incident. Had there been pictures of the contest, there would have been preserved to posterity the spectacle of a large man of your general build and features declining to rise from a reclining position when the bell called him to the centre for the fifth round. I will concede that possibly you did not hear the bell, but as Fitz was on his feet in the ring immediately following the clanging of the gong, the impression grew that you desired a bit more rest before resuming the battle

### Lay as in a Siesta

THAT belief was strengthened when you ignored the urgent requests of Ryan and Delaney to "git up

and go after him." Still you lay like a man in an afternoon nap in a hammock, with the referee looking at you in a stern and inquiring manner. Delaney and Ryan looked about as if searching for a derrick, and there being no such apparatus in sight, these two heroic seconds decided to endanger life and limb and lift you from your coauch. Delaney was but a light heavyweight and Ryan a welter, yet they seized you by the body, one on each side and with a heave ho that would have done credit to a band of stevedores they raised you first to a sitting position and then got you on your feet.

At least fifteen seconds had elapsed since the bell sounded for the round, and the referee would have been justified in asking if you intended to fight any more that night, but he contented himself with giving you a threatening look and ordered the contest to proceed. In very truth, Jeff, you were not enthusiastic over the resumption of hostilities, and covered up, crouched and backed away from the freckled-faced person opposite you. Then again occurred actions on the part of Fitz that should have been preserved in pictures.

You were so wabbly and weary, Jeff that you never made a lead in the 5th round, and Fitz, instead of carrying the fight to a man who apparently was out in his corner, shuffled about the ring, making feints that were not followed by rights or lefts.

### Fitz Seemed Regretful

IT was intimated that Fitz felt a bit regretful over the tremendous heart blow he dealt you in the 4th round, and had decided to let you down easy during the remainder of the contest. As a matter of fact Jeff, Fitz did not land a blow in the remaining six rounds that would have dented a custard pie, and gradually you regained your normal vigor.

The affair dragged along until the 11th round when you landed a right hander that knocked Fitz down and he was counted out. I sat at the ringside, a short distance from Fitz's corner, and just before the final blow was delivered, Martin Julian, manager and chief second of Fitz, ejaculated: "Suffering serpents, here comes the knockout."

I often have wondered how Julian knew that the knockout blow was due, for at the time it started, Fitz was in good physical condition and boxing about the same as he had in preceding rounds. I will not distress you by repeating the accusations that the bout was in the burlap for you and that Fitz got all the coin in exchange for his title. I am not positive of the authenticity of the charge that the beaten gladiator when taunted with the loss of the championship, retorted: "Oh, let 'im 'ave the title, an' when I get ready I'll take hit away from 'im."

### The Mystery of the Thing

BUT there is one thing that cannot be overlooked in connection with that bout and that is that you, a youngster, who had never decisively defeated a classy heavyweight, stepped into the ring and stopped the most dangerous hitter, greatest ring general and most remarkable strategist of the hempen square.

It was an amazing performance for a youngster, and it was especially noteworthy from the fact that Fitz never seemed able to hit you except in the fourth round. For the most part Fitz was swinging right handers high above your head, and he never attempted his lefty shift with which he beat the clever Corbett, the boisterous Sharkey and the capable Ruhlin.

But now Jeff, comes the most astonishing part of the entire story of the meetings between you and the Cornishman. When you were a youngster and without much experience, Fitz was able to land only one blow on you in eleven rounds. And when he hit you over the heart so hard you nearly failed to answer the bell for the fifth session, Fitz failed to follow up the advantage.

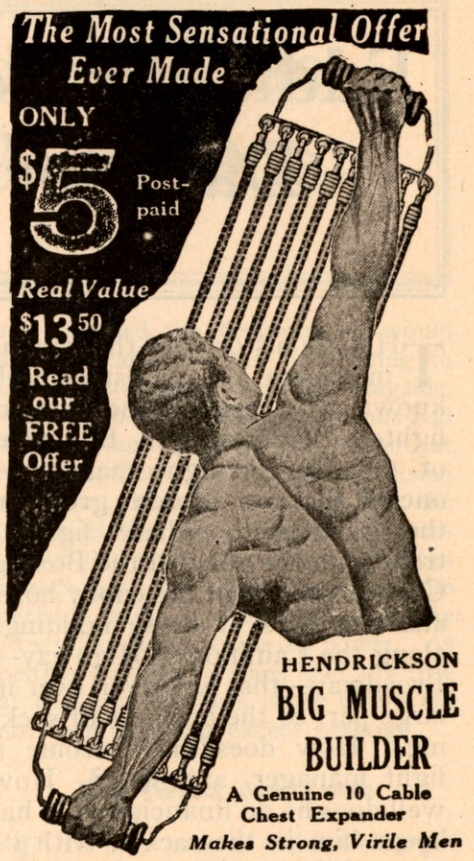
### They Battled Again

HOWEVER, Jeff, three years later, when Fitz was 40 years of age, you in the prime of young manhood, with much ring experience and confidence due to victories over fighters of class, the old chap met you again inside the ropes.

But he did not waste any time swinging high over your head. He started punching in the first round and kept it up till his old, battered knuckles yielded to the strain in the 7th, when he could punch no more and was again beaten.

Those at the ringside assert that every punch that Fitz let go in that battle on the Coast landed with a thud some where on your anatomy and that your face was nearly "lifted" by the blows. Perhaps the old fellow did have plastered hands, but that does not explain how he was unable to hit you with effect in 1899 and could punch your face to a pulp in 1902. Perhaps you can tell the secret.

Yours as Ever,
C. F. M.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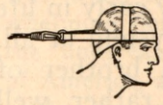

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# Eddie Walker—The Story of An Every Day Sort of Manager of Boxers

By FRANK GRAHAM

THE life histories of the famous managers are almost as well known as those of the famous fighters they manage. But what of the average fight manager—one of the ever present group in the gymnasium where fighters train or in the office of the Boxing Commission, or in the cubby holes and corridors of those buildings along the Cauliflower Highway—Broadway—that are given over in large part to the business of socking. How does one become a fight manager, and why? How well does he do financially? What keeps him in the racket, with its ups and downs, its streaks of lean and streaks of fat?

Well, let us take a look at an average manager—Eddie Walker, for instance. Eddie's real name is Archie—but that's a little story in itself. A story, furthermore, illustrating that managerial ability usually crops out very early in life if one has it in his system at all. Eddie, you see, is a brother of Archie Walker, the rather well known lightweight and Archie's real name is Irving.

The switch in names came about when Irving wanted to be an amateur boxer at the age of fourteen. The A. A. U. rule is that a boy under sixteen cannot get a registration card and applicants must produce their birth certificates. That might have stumped Irving but it didn't stump Archie. He was sixteen, so what could be simpler than for him to get his own birth certificate for presentation by Irving? So Irving was registered on Archie's certificate and, forthwith, became Archie. Archie, bereft of a name, cast about him and seized upon Eddie.

### Started at Early Age

"BUT I knew long before that that Eddie had in him the makings of a manager," says Archie. "When I was only thirteen years old, I was pinched in an action by the S. P. C. C. against the old Broadway Sporting Club of Brooklyn for using kid boxers in Monday matinee shows and Eddie accompanied me to court. The trial lasted a couple of days and the agents of the Society wanted us to go to their shelter for lunch but Eddie held out for dough to eat in a restaurant. That was a real treat for me, for I never had eaten in a restaurant before."

### They're After Him

*Sammy Mandell, lightweight champion*

When Archie entered the amateur ranks, Eddie acted as his manager and succeeded in winning many a bout for him in the dressing room.

"I'd find out whom he was going to box," says Eddie, "and then go to work on the kid. If he was about Archie's size, I'd tell him Archie was a body puncher and to keep his guard low. Then Archie would knock him silly with a punch on the chin. If he was bigger than Archie, I'd tell him Archie played for the head. He'd keep his guard up and Archie would sink him with shots in the stomach. I got away with this because the kids didn't know who I was.

### Came Out in the Open

"WHEN Archie became champion, I came out in the open to do my tricks. I'd give all his opponents the oil, telling them if they would be good, Archie wouldn't hurt them. That would make them think he was a man killer and they would be scared stiff going into the ring."

Archie having drifted into the professional ranks as a fighter, it was natural that Eddie should follow as a manager. First, however, he hooked up as match maker with a club in Freeport, and filled minor berths with clubs in New York and Brooklyn. It was while he was attached to one of these clubs that he took to managing. Sig Keppen was his first fighter. Sig now is the dean of an ever increasing string, the star of which is Harry Ebbets, the "Blonde Thunderbolt."

"I had heard Frank Bagley say, one morning, that he was looking for a lightweight to fight somebody in Montreal the next night. A few minutes later, Keppen walked in. I'd never seen him but when he told me he was a fighter and wanted engagements, I asked him who his manager was. He said he didn't have one and I told him he ought to get one. In fact, I told him I'd be his manager and to show him how good I was, I'd take him up to Montreal that night and put him in a show the following night. He accepted and off we went.

### Bought Out Rival Manager

"ON the train he admitted to me that he had a contract with a manager and when we got back I bought his contract. The manager was broke, the winter was coming on and I got the contract for the price of an overcoat—seventy-five dollars. It was a good investment. Sig isn't the best fighter in the world but he's a crowd pleaser and he gets the dough. We've done pretty well, Sig and I."

"And is business, in general, good?"

"Pretty good," he says. "I made seven hundred dollars last month. I can live pretty well on that. I keep my fighters busy and while they don't

(*Continued on page* 28)

# Young Griffo Never Got a Title Though He Really Did Win One

BY THE OLD TIMER

IN the course of an interesting sketch of the career of Albert Griffith, of Australia and Broadway, who was known in the ring as "Young Griffo," Nat Fleischer, publisher of THE RING, made this statement: "Despite his greatness, Young Griffo never won a championship in this country, and this is attributed wholly to his laziness and refusing to take training seriously."

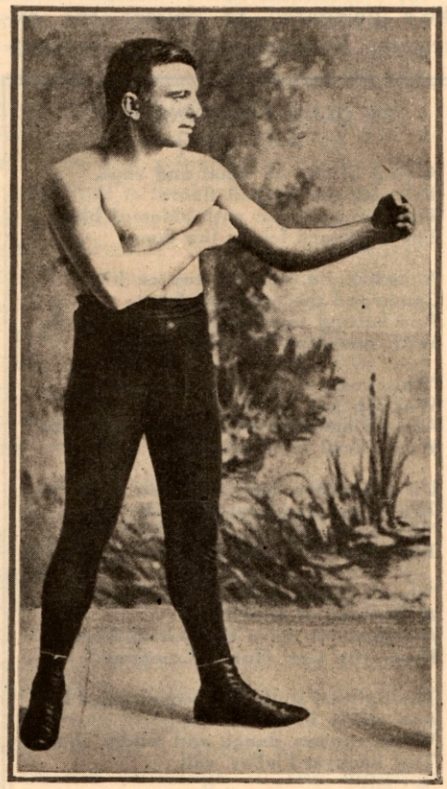
All of which is absolute truth. Griffo never had the pleasure of adjusting a pugilistic crown to his cranium, nor of waving a championship sceptre in response to the plaudits of his frenzied admirers. But he did win one title and never got it.

The Australian Wizard of fisticuffs firmly declined to spend any of his not too valuable time in training. As a matter of fact Griffo's preparation for many of his most important battles in America consisted of a haircut and a shave. How he managed to retain his wonderful speed, judgment of distance, and defensive skill in face of persistent violation of all known rules of health and physical culture has always been a mystery. Yet he took life easy without apparently decreasing his marvellous skill as a boxer.

This may have been due in a measure to the fact that Griffo was able in nearly all his contests to escape punishment, and thus avoid the weakening effects of heavy blows to body or jaw. The sole evidence that he ever was hit with effect was in the form of a well developed cauliflower ear. But there were extenuating circumstances. The man who managed to hit the auricular organ of the great Griffo was none other than Dan Creedon, one of the cleverest light heavyweights ever developed in Kangarooland.

### Tackles Light Heavyweight

A SIX-ROUND bout was arranged between the "feather" and the light heavyweight, and Griffo declared in advance that Creedon would not lay a glove on him in the six rounds. Griffo was wrong, for Creedon gave him a jarring smash on the ear in one of early rounds. But that was the only blow landed by the larger man and



*Young Griffo*

Griffo won on points. Yet to this day Griffo carries the mark of Creedon's one wallop. Griffo declared it was a "lucky punch."

Although Griffo claimed to be a featherweight, the truth is that he never scaled less than 126 pounds and the limit of the class in those days, the early nineties, was "supposedly" 122 pounds ringside. The featherweight title holder at that time was George Dixon, and Griffo fought him three times, but succeeded in getting no better than a draw each time. The bouts were at 4, 25 and 20 rounds, and the Australian seemed to have the better of the contests each time.

But even had Griffo won decisively and received the decisions he would not have acquired the title owing to Dixon's insistence on 122 ringside. Griffo then took on the dangerous Kid Lavigne, and in a 20-round bout at Maspeth, Oct. 12, 1895, got a decision of draw, although he again had the better of the argument. In November of the same year Griffo went ten rounds with the rising Joe Gans, the decision being a draw, although the Australian had a shade on points. As neither Lavigne or Gans held any title at the time of these bouts Griffo did not gain anything except prestige.

### Got Verdict over Leeds

THE only bout in which Griffo got a fair deal was a 12-round contest with Horace Leeds, a particularly clever lightweight, which took place at Coney Island, March 4, 1895. Griffo outpointed Leeds and received the referee's decision.

Unquestionably the most unjust treatment Griffo received in the ring was when he administered an overwhelming defeat to Jack McAuliffe, the "undefeated" lightweight champion of America, and was declared the loser by the referee. Although Griffo, by the unfair edict of the referee, failed to get the decision and the title, yet he fairly won both. This bout took place at the Coney Island A. C. at the foot of West 8th Street, Aug. 27, 1894, and was witnessed by a large crowd. The contest preceded by two years McAuliffe's retirement and the accession of Kid Lavigne as king of the lightweight division.

Incidentally, the claim that a champion cannot lose his title except in the ring received a severe jolt when Lavigne was generally accepted as the lightweight champion. The Saginaw Kid did not defeat McAuliffe in the ring, chiefly because McAuliffe, after inspecting Lavigne's performance in stopping Dick Burge, English lightweight champion, in 17 rounds, decided he would retire while the retiring was good. At the same time, if a champion cannot lose his title except in the

(*Continued on page 27*)

# Pete Cyr, Untamed Son of North Woods, King of the Logging Camps

By WILLIAM J. McNULTY

COULD a fistic exponent vanquish a disciple of the rough and tumble form of physical warfare, in a ruleless combat?

When Gene Tunney, our champion of the heavies, was tuning up in the Maine woods late in December, he was challenged by one Pete Cyr.

Pete is the onion's whiff at the rough and tumble. The rougher he gets the more his foes tumble. Life. Like an unused postage stamp, he's never been licked. At least that's what he claims. Has been in more than 100 battles, too. The only fly in Pete's ointment has been a prevailing small gate all through his conflicts. The struggles have been enacted at logging camps and while on river drives, with the attendance naturally very much limited. The largest attendance at any of the Cyr combats was 200. And the biggest gross summed up about $250. The biggest Cyr end totalled $175. There have been instances in which he went over the top for $5.

How often do we read or hear of a ringster who is operating on percentage looking over the house and renegging because of unsatisfactory attendance? Pete Cyr has never done this, although he invariably works on percentage. Regardless of what's in the cash box, he's perfectly willing to do his stuff on the boards or on the green. It's immaterial to him whether he battles outdoors or indoors. Some of the logging camp owners have registered objections to the indoor tilts because of damages to their property.

Pete Cyr has toiled in the timberlands of various states and provinces including Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Michigan, Quebec, New Brunswick. And he has been on dozens of river drives in northern New England and eastern Canada, and in Michigan.

### He Scales at 200

IN altitude, Pete is 5 feet 10. In poundage he hovers about the 200 mark. His weight fluctuates but little, a few pounds up or down. In and out of Michigan he's been as hard as Flint. Needs no weeks of training for a battle. Not even days. For with Pete, the jousts are often arranged in the morning and staged in the afternoon or night. With all the logging or driving crews gathered around as witnesses to the slaughter. Each spectator contributes a stipulated sum to the worker who's delegated to collect the exchequer. In many instances, the battlers open the hostilities without knowing just how much coin there is to be divided between them.

**YE OLDE FIGHTING DAYS**
**By Robert Hayward**

**A ring of tin, of wood and rope,**
**The sod, the padded floor;**
**The arena topped with skies of blue,**
**The backyard fence, the door.**

**A jack-knife, marble, top or kite**
**Comprised the entrance fee;**
**And betting touched the highest peak,**
**With one cent, two and three.**

**"This box contains the finest soap,"**
**Was labeled on the stools;**
**And "Diamond Dick, the Boy of Iron,"**
**Was official book of rules.**

**Up stepped a lad with pan in hand,**
**The gong was beaten loud;**
**"We have with us this afternoon,**
**Two men of whom I'm proud."**

**"Here's bloody Dan of the Dirty Ten,**
**A darn good man is he;**
**And here we have the Awful Mick,**
**From the Gas House Company."**

**The fighters smile with compressed lips,**
**And stiffly bow to all;**
**While rooters dance and wildly shout,**
**The backyard alley call.**

**With the crash of pans the bout is on,**
**They rush and clinch, then break;**
**A foul is called by Danny's men,**
**While Mick's men call a fake.**

**The night comes on, they straggle home,**
**With swollen cheeks and eyes;**
**To dream about the padded ring,**
**Beneath the backyard skies.**

The division is usually made at the ratio of 60 to 80 per cent of the gross to the victor. In isolated cases, the melees are arranged on a winner take all basis. In the olden days of rough and tumble scrapping, it was usually winner take all. With the loser taking a decorative pasting.

Modern civilization wrought a change. From a humanitarian angle, a movement was started to declare the loser in on the jack. This was deemed necessary because many of the defeated warriors were unable to work for periods following the battles.

### Doesn't Travel in Pullmans

PETE CYR tramped about 35 miles over snow and ice to mop up the rough and tumble champ of a Maine logging camp. He had challenged his rival and the defi had been accepted. There was no means of transportation between the site of the fight and the camp of which Pete was a member. So, accompanied by three of his coworkers, he set out on snowshoes to cover the distance. The trio spent most of one day in the hike. Cyr was tired when he arrived at his destination, and yet he had to tangle up with his foe on the morrow. His antagonist was as fresh as a wise cracking bellhop. Pete was conceding considable weight, too. But twenty-five or fifty pounds are nothing to worry about in a rough and tumble collision.

Pete's footwork carried him to victory in the strenuous battle that was waged between the two heavyweights. And that doesn't mean just the nimble stepping about. Pete was there like a kid in an ice cream plant, on the headwork too. And that doesn't mean exercising the gray matter only.

There are no rounds and no legal intermissions in a rough and tumble fight as exemplified by the men of the big timbers. There's no ten count. Victory is attained only when one of the battlers admits defeat. This frequently causes a drawn out fray, with one of the combatants on the receiving end and too game to hoist the white flag until unable to arise.

### Durant Was a Tough One

PETE'S toughest assignment was when he agreed to hook up with Theo. Durant, one of the huskies and trickiest rough and tumble performers that ever did his stuff in the Quebec woods. Durant had confined his attention to Quebec. On the Sagunay and in the Laurentian area he was recognized as supreme. There was none to question his superiority.

Cyr had known of the prowess of

Durant for some years. If all the tales Pete had heard of Theo had been true, the Canuck lumberjack was a prize man killer. He had temporarily disabled many of his opponents for weeks and months, it was reported. And some of the men may have fully recovered in collaboration with Daddy Time, but they didn't look the same. Because the beezer was usually twisted across the vision after Durant finished his act.

Folks predicted Cyr would come back in a wooden package. That Durant carried too many tricks for the invader. Scores of woodsmen related harrowing tales of the fates that befell those who essayed to remove Durant from this vale of valor. But if they figured they could discourage Pete from his self-appointed task they were off in their mathematics. He was determined to give Durant an opportunity to pull all the stunts at his command.

Nothing is barred in the rough and tumble. Punching, kicking, gouging, backheeling, elbowing, butting, all the wrestling holds including the strangle, and most damaging of all, the use of the pedals on a prostrate foe. In some instances, agreement is made to wear only woolen socks. If not, the scrapsters wear the heavy footwear of the woods.

For a half hour Durant had a decided advantage. He inflicted severe punishment on Cyr. Durant could manipulate his trilbies like a ballet dancer. With ease plus a quintet of toes he would bounce a footful of flesh and bones off Cyr's belfry. It seemed to be no exertion for him to kick as high as Pete's dome and accurately, at that.

### Ah, Those Keecks!

THOSE kicks were damaging and no error. Pete felt each of them. But he continued to mope along, waiting for Durant to tire himself out. After the contest had been going an hour, Pete deduced his enemy was fatigued. And he went on the offensive. Although he never worked in a dairy plant, Pete's a mean butter. His skull seems immune to pain. He got home a couple of healthy butts in the Durant mid region, causing Terrible Theo to stall for time to regain his wind. Pete continued on the offensive, and punished the favorite fearfully. Not only was Pete successful in the butting. He punched and kicked virorously.

Durant clung to Cyr like a leech. Pete was handicapped by the hugging tactics, but he continued to inflict severe damage on his weary foe. In the effort to free himself from Durant Cyr was growing tired himself. But he kept plugging away.

Finally, after an hour and a half of furious milling, Cyr wrested himself from Durant and clouted him on the button with a mean right swing. Durant collided with the earth, but was up quickly, again closing in on Pete. The pair exchanged wallops for a few minutes, then Theo aimed a vicious kick at Pete's stomach. Pete caught the foot and upset Durant.

He then grabbed the latter before he could get to his feet and tossed Terrible Theo against a tree about six feet away. Durant was knocked as cold as Chili sauce in Alaska. As Durant was unconscious it was impossible for him to give up the ghost, so one of the leading spirits in the camp acted in his stead. That gave Pete Cyr the victory and about $150.

An inventory revealed Pete had a broken rib and a fractured finger joint. He also had a flock of cuts about the face and hands. One eye was partly closed. Durant fared much worse. When he caromed off the tree, an arm was broken. He was bruised all over his body and his face bore many cuts. An ankle was also wrenched. Cyr was back at work felling trees in about two weeks. Durant was unable to resume work for a month.

### Negro Earns His Cakes

A COLORED middleweight who was seeking ring dates about Bangor, Me., was imported to the woodlands to cope with Cyr. The colored walloper was as flat as a gent who stepped into the way of a steam roller. So he accepted an offer of $50 and cakes to mingle with Cyr.

The tilt was arranged for indoors—one of the buildings in the logging camp was cleared of equipment. Cyr prefers the outdoors because of plenty of room to move about in, but a snow storm developed, making it necessary to alter the original plans. When the colored mitt manipulator reached the camp after snowshoeing about ten miles from the railroad station, he was in a mood to cancel the engagement. But one can't pick fifty seeds up anywhere. So the ringster decided to go through with the arrangements, collect the reward and vanish in the direction of Boston.

Besides, what had he to fear from this lumberjack? One healthy belt on the button, and it would be the exit march. Rules didn't matter when you freighted a sting in either mauler. The ringman's only fear was that he would be mobbed by the motley crew if he knocked their delegate for a hospital route.

The fighter elected to cover his knuckles with a pair of bag punching gloves to protect the bones. At the outset, he danced in and out feeling Cyr out with light jabs and swings. Then he aimed a stiff punch at Pete. But Cyr had driven forward, with head down, and struck neatly in the pit of the stranger's digestion. There was a groan and the sufferer dropped his hands to massage the affected spot. This was a signal for Pete to fling punches and kicks by the dozen. The fighter covered up—went into a shell.

### Through the Wall

THE Cyr attack was so damaging the outsider had to abandon his cover. Pete got in close in one of his rushes and, clutching the colored man around the waist, whangd him against the wall of the building. The wall was flimsy—thin boards. The colored man's skypiece went through the wall—his head outdoors and the balance of his body indoors. Hostilities were suspended, until he was extricated from his plight. He then signified his intention of quitting. But when he was notified that if he cried sufficient, there'd be no half century for him, he reluctantly agreed to resume the combat.

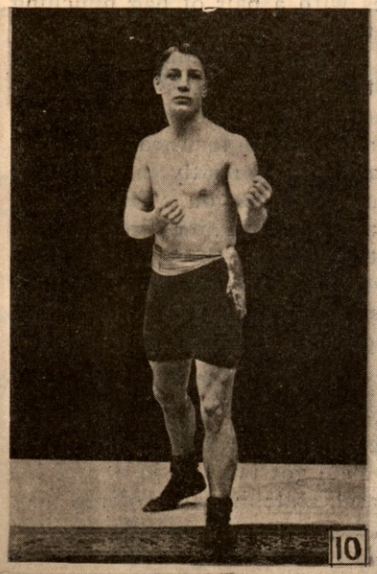
He tried as diligently as he could to outrun Cyr. At times he would turn his back to the aggressive lumberjack and run from one end of the room to the other, trying to dodge the pursuing and relentless Peter en route. After about a half hour of this type of warfare, there were protests from the spectators. They paid to see knock 'em down and drag 'em out tactics, and if they didnt see two sided rough stuff there'd be a long tramp on a snowy trail with the ducky individual the long tramp—pursued by a band of irate and aggressive lumberjacks. And without the coveted $50.

There was no other recourse for the stranger but to meet Pete at the latter's own game. At which he had as much chance as a bag of candy among a flock of newsboys. Pete kicked the stranger in the pinions. The force of the kick was enough to send the pug to the floor. Evidently, he forgot there was no referee to count over him thus allowing a rest and an out for his defeat. In a few seconds, a couple of kicks caused him to get to his feet.

For another fifteen minutes the hapless stranger was battered about the building. Finally, the foreman of the crew called a halt to the contest and

(*Continued on page 26*)

# HAVE YOU A CAMERA EYE? CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE BOXERS?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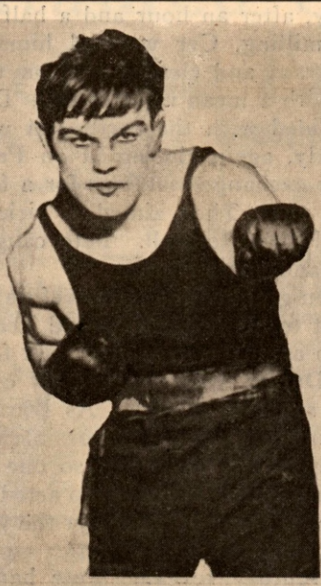
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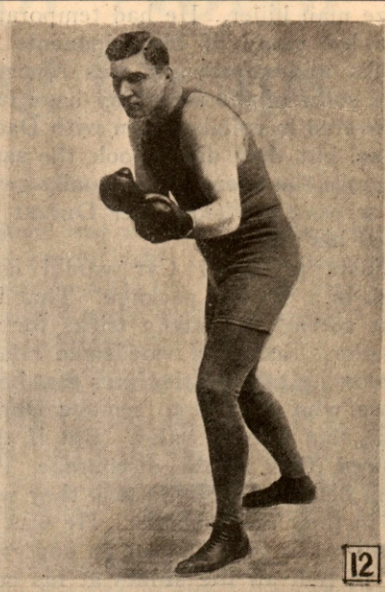
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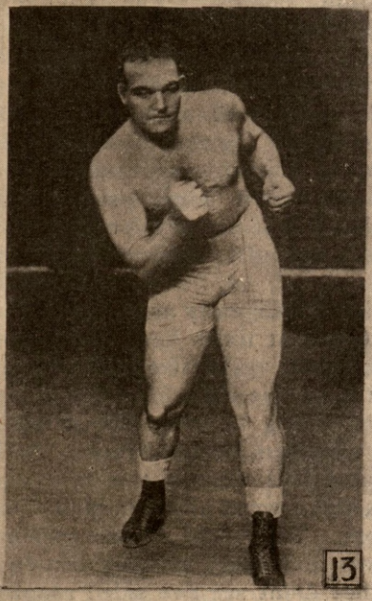
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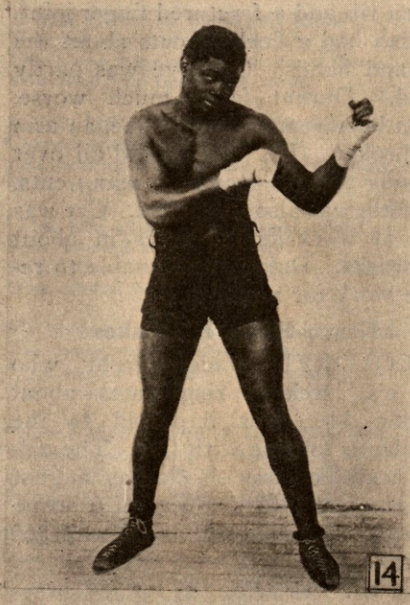
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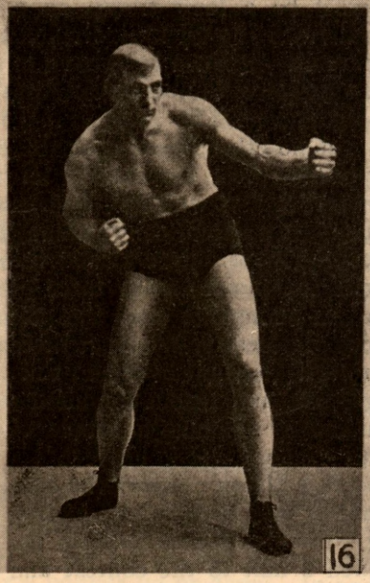
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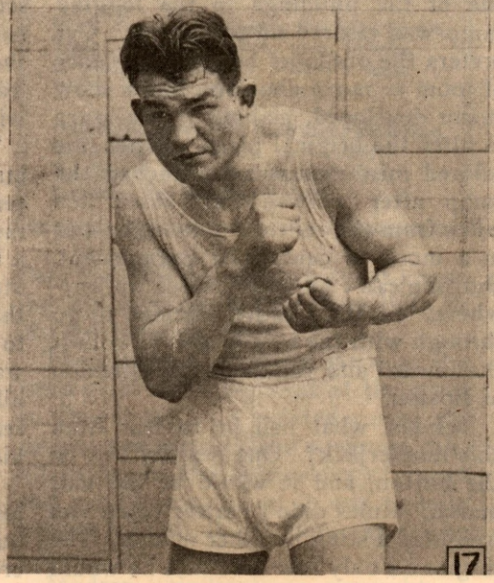
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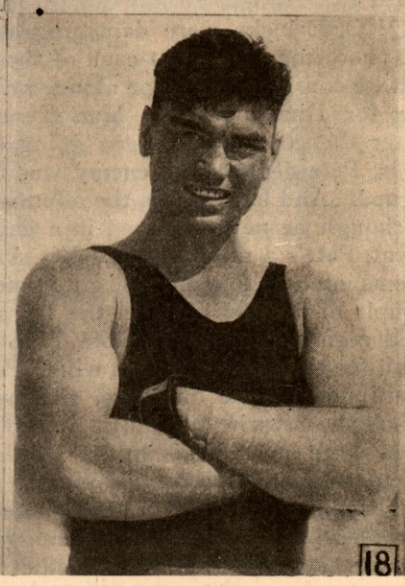
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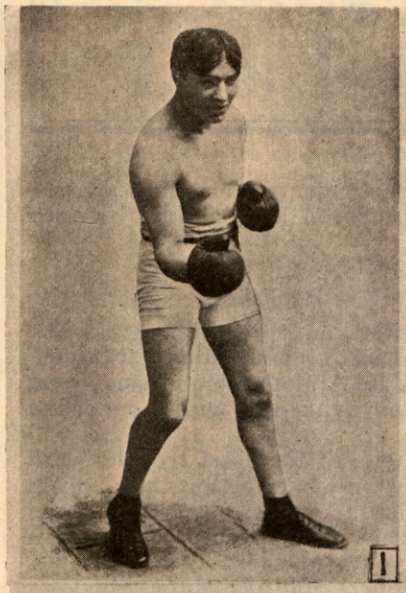
FOR DETAILS OF CONTEST SEE PAGE 23

# THEY WERE FAMOUS IN THEIR DAY. DO YOU REMEMBER THEM?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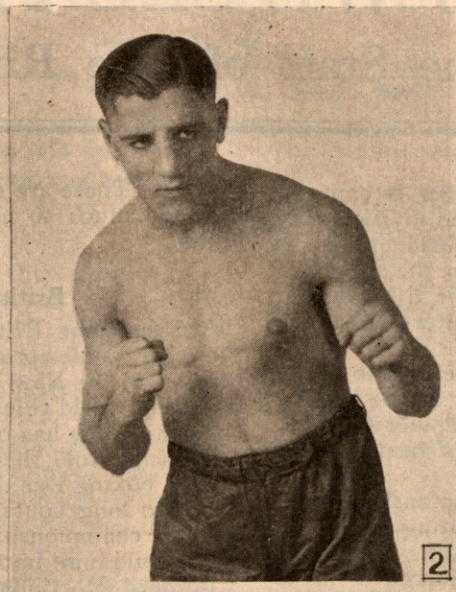
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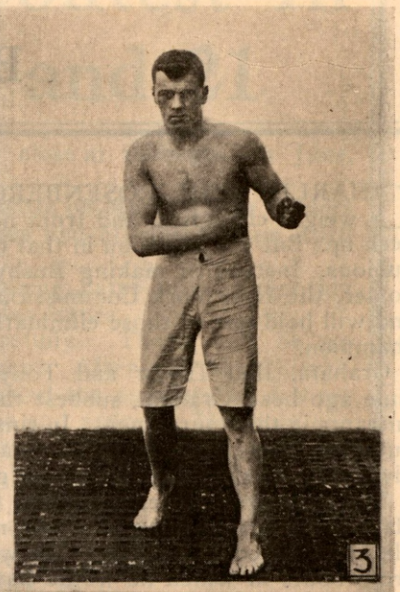
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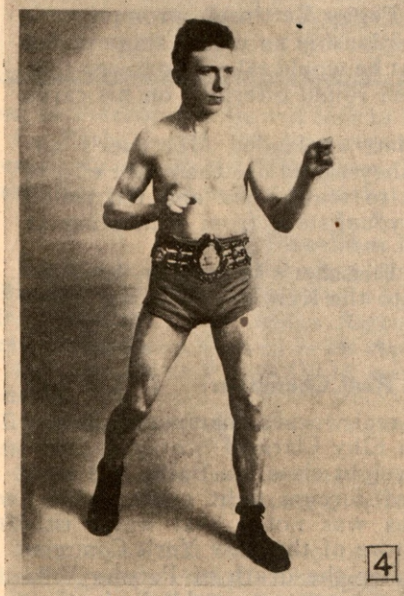
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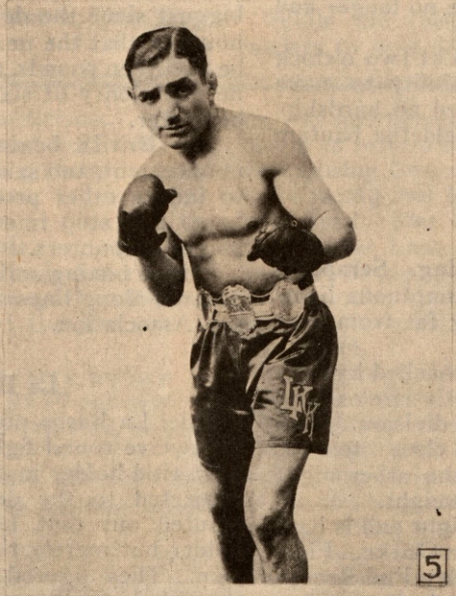
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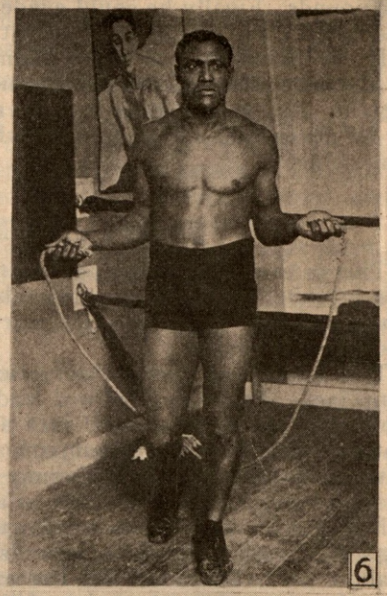
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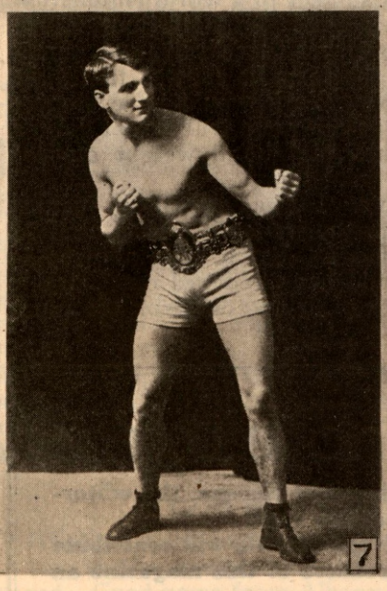
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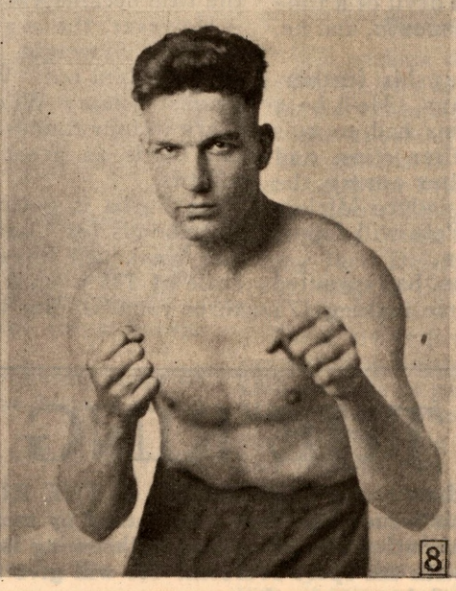
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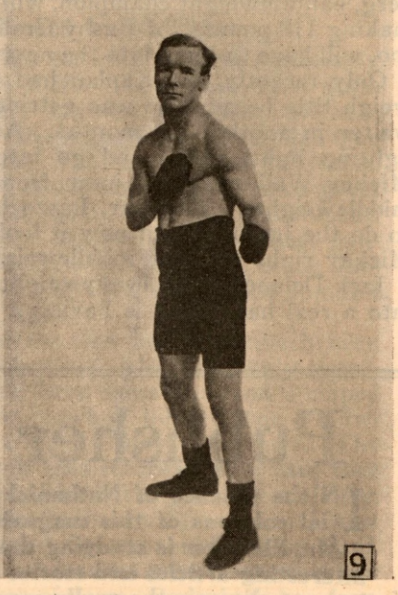
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SEE PAGE 23 FOR INSTRUCTIONS

# AS WE SEE IT

## By the Staff of The Ring

CHARLEY PHIL ROSENBERG no longer is bantamweight champion, and from now on the division may perk up. But the situation in that once resplendent class is dubious. Instead of making Bushy Graham the new title holder, the New York Commission ruled the title vacated and will hold one of those eliminations to determine a new champion.

Graham, Bud Taylor and Tony Canzoneri, who some time ago beat, Graham, subbest themselves as the leading entrants in this tournament. In time a title holder will rise, but even there appears to be small hope of bringing the division up to anything like its old glories.

The passing of Rosenberg from the championship of the class is a splendid thing. He was not a fighting champion. He knew he could not make the weight and he kept away from bouts in which he would have been forced to make 118 pounds. Finally he could evade the issue no longer and had to take on Graham, and forfeit the title.

It may seem hard to lose a championship at two o'clock of the afternoon of a fight because of inability to make weight. But in this case Rosenberg suffered no hardship, as he never was a real bantam while he held the bantam cham title.

* * *

### Boxers are Waxing Fat

This is the Golden Age in American boxing. Scrappers live in unbelievable luxury, ride about in sumptuous limosines, and eat too much. They are getting fat from ease and weighty purses.

This is no mere casual observation. It is backed by strident fact. There is hardly a leader in fistic circles who isn't ready to be graduated into a heavier division. Pete Latzo, welterweight champion, scaled close to 160 pounds for his fight with Sammy Baker, the other night and is ready to make his debut as a middleweight.

Fidel La Barba is too heavy for the flyweight and is having a hard time making 112 pounds for Elky Clarke. Fidel is about set to break out as a bantam. Charley Phil Rosenberg, bantamweight champion, will have the devil of a time making 118 pounds for Bushy Graham next month, and he, too, will have to jump into the next division.

Only recently Kid Kaplan had to give up his featherweigh title because he was getting too heavy. He'll be a welter in another six months. Ace Hudkins had to quit fighting lightweights and go into the welter class, and Mickey Walker had to jump from the welter among the middleweights. However, Latzo helped to induce Mickey to do the jumping, and now it looks as if Pete will follow Mickey right into the middleweight section.

Jack Delaney, light heavyweight champion, has sprouted into a real heavy and is having a tough time making 175 pounds. These are not mere accidents. The boys are getting too much to eat and it's too long a time between fights.

* * *

### British Hear Ring Publisher

Although the British writers and promoters gave Nat Fleischer, publisher of The Ring, a good natured "razzing" because of the New York State Athletic Commission's acts involving world titles, they have taken up with some of the suggestions he has offered.

Fleischer told them that one of the chief troubles with British boxing was that they were burning out their boxers with too long bouts, and that they not only should stage shorter championship contests than twenty rounds, but also should limit immature youths to short six round bouts.

Bernard Mortimer, the Albert Hall promoter, London's biggest since the death of Peggy Bettinson, promptly announced that the next championship he would stage would be at fifteen rounds, and that he would take care to see that he had plenty of six and ten round offerings on his cards hereafter.

The British boxing writers applauded Mortimer's announcement, and said that they would use their best efforts to induce other promoters to feature six and ten round bouts and stop immature youngsters from contesting in longer encounters.

British boxing scribes, at Fleischer's suggestion, have organized along lines similar to the New York Boxing Writers' Association.

* * *

### La Barba a Real Champion

Fidel La Barba now is a real world's champion. Before his twelve round fight with Elky Clark of Scotland, European title holder in the flyweight class, La Barba had been subjected to the doubts of foreign fight critics. They pointed out that La Barba was not a real world title holder but merely the creature of the New York Commission. They figured that after the death of Pancho Villa the title became vacant and subject to a world elimination.

However, the argument is dead. La Barba beat Clark, the best flyweight from overseas, decisively and almost knocked him out. Villa in the form he showed that night against Jimmy Wilde in New York would have stopped Clark in four rounds. La Barba is not a truly great fighter, but he is as great a fighter as the flyweight division affords.

La Barba is getting heavy. He had trouble in making 112 pounds for Clark and to the writer it looked as if he had weakened himself. Had La Barba been allowed to scale at 115 pounds he would have knocked out Clark in three rounds. But the work of drying out took too much

# Publisher of THE RING in Europe

**IN the absence of Nathaniel S. Fleischer, owner and publisher of THE RING, who is in Europe, the editorial columns of this magazine for this issue have been contributed by members of the staff.**

**Mr. Fleischer is studying the boxing situation abroad and in forthcoming issues of THE RING will contribute interesting articles and stories dealing with the sport overseas. He will give to the readers of this magazine an intimate line on the really worth while fighters over there.**

# The Ring's Identification Contest In This Issue—See Pages 20 and 21

ON Pages 20 and 21 in this issue you will find photographs of well-known boxers of the past and present. Some you will know at a glance. Others you may not recognize so easily.

These pages of photographs present the second series in The Ring's Identification Contest. If you can identify the boxers depicted in each issue, you will get the choice of a set of Spink's 1000 famous sports stories, a Lind-Hendrickson giant grip machine, Andrews 100 Years of Boxing, or an Everlast jersey sweater. These will be given for the correct answers to the 18 photographs in each issue. The contest will be continued for four months, and at the end of the period there will be grand prizes for those who have identified all the pictures—72 for the four months.

To those who are able to identify every one of the pictures in the March, April and May issues, The Ring will present a cash prize of $25.

The grand contest will close at midnight on June, 1, 1927.

The March contest will close on March 15 for readers in the United States, Canada and Mexico, and on April 1 for all others.

There will be similar closing dates for the monthly contests in the April and May issues.

Study the pictures carefully. There will be no "bush leaguers" among them. After you have identified them write the names and the numbers on a sheet of paper, adding your name and address. Use only one side of the paper and write legibly. Then mail the sheet to

THE RING,
Identification Contest Editor,
No. 91 Seventh Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

While the contest is on it would be well for the readers to save duplicate pages of the identified boxers.

out of Fidel and subjected him to harsh criticisms.

La Barba injures his ring reputation and his health by remaining among the flyweights. Let him go into the bantam class and stir things up in that direction.

* * *

### Boxing Flourishes in Illinois

Boxing is going great guns under commission rule in Illinois. In its first months as a legitimate sport in Illinois drew $598,161.17, Chairman Righeimer of the State Athletic Commission showed in his report.

Of that amount $319,319.13 went to boxers as pay in purses. The State collected $65,837.84 as its 10 per cent of all receipts and also in fees for licenses to referees, boxers and wrestlers.

Since the new law become operative last May, ninety-two shows were conducted, with a total attendance of 207,414.

It is hoped that the promoters and the boxers will take these figures to heart. The fans want clean sport and are willing to pay for it. But they want it CLEAN.

* * *

### Muldoon's Warning to Tunney

HEAVYWEIGHT champions should fight at least four times a year if they expect to defend successfully their crowns against outstanding rivals, in the opinion of William Muldoon, eighty-one-year-old member of the New York Commission and former trainer of John L. Sullivan.

"Lack of work rather than overwork has been the downfall of every heavyweight champion in the past fifty years," said the veteran recently. "It looks to me as if Gene Tunney was 'licking himself,' the same as Jack Dempsey did—through inactivity. Fighting once a year for a heavyweight champion is not enough."

Muldoon expressed the view that the present crop of heavyweight challengers is the best in the history of the game.

Muldoon's warning to Tunney is timely and to the point.

* * *

### Good News from Albany

THE New York State boxing law is not to be touched, nor is the composition of the Commission to be changed. Good news from Albany!

Coincident with Governor Smith assuring fight fans that he was heartily in favor of boxing and had no intention or desire to interfere with it, the Republicans went on record as opposing Governor Smith's original intention to amalgamate racing and boxing and put the two sports under one paid head. The Republicans do not want to tinker with the Walker Law, and many Democrats will support them. Indications are that the only change will be that boxing will be put under the Department of State. The Walker Law will not be amended and the State Athletic Commission will stand.

Apparently Governor Smith is waking up to the fact that this supposed attitude on boxing is none too popular. The majority of the sport's fans saw no necessity of any amalgamation of boxing and racing, and all of those who had the best interests of the game at heart were emphatically against any change in the Walker Law, or of putting boxing under any one man directorate. The report had spread that Governor Smith was opposed to boxing and was "looking for a chance to kill it."

* * *

### Berlenbach Whipped by McTigue

THE parlous days of 1926 for ring experts apparently are to be duplicated in 1927. There have been quite a few surprises since January 1, and not the least of these was the knockout of Paul Berlenbach by Mike McTigue in four rounds in New York. Paul was a 7 to 5 favorite, but the thirty-five year old Mike battered the once great Berlie until Kid McPartland had to stop the punishment. Paul went fifteen rounds with the cutting, smashing, punishing Jack Delaney in Brooklyn last Summer, when Jacques won the light heavyweight title, but Berlie couldn't last four sessions with McTigue.

There are critics who believe that had Berlenbach been permitted to finish the fourth round, which had only seventeen seconds to go, he would have come back and whipped Mike, who seemed to have punched himself out. However, there's a big "if" and a bigger "maybe" in there. The fact remains that Berlenbach was trounced to a fare thee well, much after the manner of his first fight with Delaney.

Delaney softened up Berlenbach last Summer and now it looks as if almost any good fighter could wallop Paul. Here's another fighter who has learned that inaction is like rust. It eats away the substance of form. Berlenbach has done well to call it a day and quit the ring.

# George La Blanche, Exponent of the Pivot Blow

By NAT FLEISCHER

INGENUITY and resourcefulness—these added to cleverness, ability to assimilate and give punishment, and a fighting heart—make for the ideal fighter. Ring history is replete with stories of trickery and ingenious inventions which have brought fame and fortune to fighters, but it is doubtful any specialty punch has been more discussed than the pivot blow used by George La Blanche, the Marine, and the solar plexus, made famous by Bob Fitzsimmons.

**La Blanche gained world renown when he knocked out Nonpareil Jack Dempsey, then middleweight champion, with the pivot blow. Fitz jumped into the heavyweight championship by whipping Jim Corbett with the solar plexus. Other famous punches are the occipital, a blow behind the head which "Gunboat" Smith used with telling effect; the rabbit, a chop on the side of the ear; the kidney, the "one-two," made famous by Willie Lewis and the corkscrew, invented by Kid McCoy.**

### Made Ring History

When La Blanche hung his pivot punch on Dempsey and sent Jack down for the first defeat, the result was one of the most unexpected in ring history. Possibly no one thought less of defeat than did the Nonpareil himself, for only three years previously he stopped the Marine in 13 vicious rounds at Larchmont, N. Y., and proved conclusively then that he was La Blanche's master.

The history of events leading up to their second meeting and the fight itself are worth while repeating. After his victory over Dempsey the Marine went to San Francisco where he opened a "cafe." He had for his patrons some of the greatest sportsmen of his time. La Blanche, at every opportunity, did his utmost to obtain a return bout with Dempsey and he kept telling his patrons why the Nonpareil was afraid to meet him.

**Every time Dempsey came to the Coast, La Blanche issued a challenge, until at last he succeeded in arranging the contest at the California A. C. of San Francisco. The bout was backed by many wealthy Coast sportsmen.**

Dempsey trained at Croll's Gardens, across the Bay in Alameda. He never mentioned La Blanche without talking of the "pivot blow." Dempsey must have had some queer foreboding—some almost prophetic knowledge of the punch that was to start him down the lane of defeat. Otherwise the pivot blow never would have entered his calculations. He even went so far as to ask his seconds to keep watch and call to him if they thought La Blanche was about to use it.

### La Blanche Is Down

The fight, up to its very ending in the thirtieth round, was all Dempsey's. Before the end of the fourth he had knocked the Marine flat on his back with a hard straight left, his favorite punch. From that time on he cut and slashed La Blanche and avoided the Marine's hard rushes and heavy swings.

In the twenty-fifth round La Blanche tried the pivot blow and missed. Dempsey kept away a little, then began fighting harder than ever, trying for a knockout.

**In the thirtieth round La Blanche, who had taken a terrific beating, reeled along the rope. He came to a stop near a corner, with his back towards the middle of the ring, facing out over the crowd and trying to get away from the blows that Dempsey was raining upon him. The champion, furiously eager to finish it, was hitting fast with both hands. Dempsey was still fresh and strong—La Blanche, apparently, about to drop.**

### The Supreme Punch

Then came the most astonishing thing that ever happened in a ring, as sensational as the knocking out of Ketchel by Jack Johnson when Ketchel had knocked Johnson down and was rushing in to finsh him.

As Dempsey slackened the pace for a second, to let La Blanche face him again, the Marine pivoted on his left heel and swung his left arm, held stiffly at full length. He never saw where the blow was going but some fate directed it. The Marine's blindly-flung first struck solidly on the champion's jaw. Dempsey fell forward as if he had been struck by lighting, face down on the floor, breaking his nose. There he lay, half conscious and unable to rise. The count reached "ten," and the referee turned to the winner.

**At that moment all eyes shifted from the prostrate form of Jack Dempsey to where La Blanche stood, leaning against the ropes, dazed and all but out himself, not yet realizing that the man who had been beating him slowly down was lying at his feet. He was a winner who didn't know that he had won.**

When Jack Dempsey stood up at last he walked unsteadily to La Blanche's corner and, throwing his arms around the neck of the victor, begged for a return match but La Blanche never gave it to him.

Soon after the fight La Blanche gave up his bar and became a wandering fighter and finally, broken in spirit and poverty stricken, he passed into oblivion.

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# Here's a Boxing Record Which May Stand for All Time

By DANIEL M. DANIEL

BOXERS may come and boxers may go, but there is one record on the books which will stand just so long as the sport lives. We refer to the mark for the longest fight—110 rounds, lasting seven hours and 19 minutes.

This battle was fought between Andy Bowen, the New Orleans mulatto lightweight, and Jack Burke in the Crescent City on April 6, 1893. The struggle was contested with gloves.

In the matter of number of rounds the Bowen-Burke affair must yield to many other scraps of the London Prize Ring days—the brawly bare knuckle era. But we must not lose sight of the fact that under the London rules a knockdown meant the close of the round and that some sessions did not last even one minute.

**Insofar as rounds are concerned, the record is held by the 276 round battle between Jack Jones and Patsy Tunney, staged at Cheshire, England, in 1825. Mike Madden and Billy Hayes went 185 rounds—six hours and three minutes—in England in 1849.**

### Madden Never Hurried

This Madden person was a glutton for punishment. Apparently he stands as the champion long distance record holder of boxing for in addition to going 185 rounds with Hayes he fought 140 rounds—five hours and 40 minutes—with Jack Grant in 1848. Madden also had various tilts of a mere 65 and 85 rounds. Mike never was in a hurry.

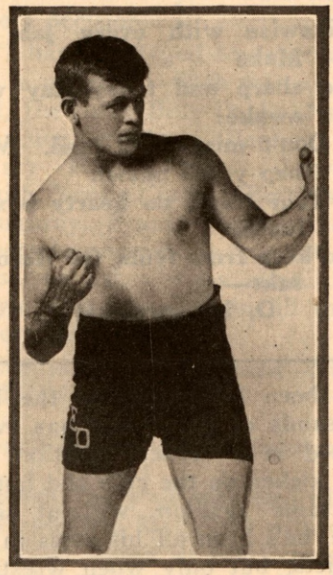
Before Bowen and Burke came on the scene the duration record in this country was 100 rounds—six hours and 40 minutes. Danny Needham and Patsy Kerrigan slugged each other that long in a glove fight in San Francisco in 1890.

**Bowen's fight with Burke came to mind recently through the death of Clever Sencio, the little Filipino, the day after his bout with Bud Taylor. Bowen died after the manner of Sencio. On December 14, 1894, Jack Burke battered Bowen into submission, stopping him in the fourteenth round, at New Orleans. On the following day Bowen died.**

### Too Much for Bowen

Bowen was one of those old fashioned stayers but he had taken too many beatings and the walloping he got from the clouting Lavigne, who within the next year was to beat Joe Walcott in their memorable fifteen

## Promising Heavy



*Ed Keeley*

round battle at Maspeth, L. I., proved too much for the negro.

Bowen was a shifty fighter and something of a hitter but he had no knockout punch. He had a penchant for long fights in an era which insisted that battles be fought to a finish.

In 1891 Bowen went 48 rounds—three hours and 41 minutes—before he lost to Austin Gibbons. In 1893 he had three fights which totalled 217 rounds—an average of 72 rounds a fight.

**Bowen's record is in startling contrast with modern ring practice. Less than two months after his gruelling draw with Burke Bowen went to the wars again—on May 31, to be exact.**

### 85 Rounds With Everhardt

And this time he fought 85 rounds with Jack Everhardt. Bowen won and the fight lasted five hours and 38 minutes.

This contest apparently made Bowen feel that he was giving a little too much for the money for in his next outing we find him in a ten round draw with Stanton Abbott. Then came a mere 25 round draw with Jimmy Carroll in August, 1894.

In the really modern era the palm for duration goes to the 42 round fight in which Joe Gans took the lightweight title from Battling Nelson on a foul at Goldfield, Nev., on September 3, 1906.

The fight lasted two hours and 46 minutes—and Gans never got over the effects of the struggle.

## They Want To Know

A Ring Reader, Indiana.
Q.—Was Jack Dempsey ever knocked out? By whom and what round?
**A.—Yes. Jim Flynn, one round.**

Reader, Charleston, S. C.
Q.—(1) Who are the fighters who died after fighting Bud Taylor? (2) Who would win a Gene Tunney-Jim Maloney fight? (3) What did Stanley Ketchel die from?
**A.—(1) Clever Sencio and Frankie Jerome. (2) Tunney. (3) Gunshot wounds.**

Ed Munson, New York City.
Q.—How many times did Johnny Dundee and Jack Bernstein meet?
**A.—Three.**

Fight Fan, Savannah, Ga.
Q.—(1) Did Chuck Burns ever fight Jack Delaney and what was the result? (2) Is Babe McGorgary a good boxer?
**A.—(1) Yes. Delaney knocked him out. (2) Both good boxer and hitter.**

John J. McCollian, Phila, Pa.
Q.—Where can I get in touch with Gene Tunney? Could he lick Dempsey again?
**A.—Breslin Hotel, New York City. No.**

W. K., Birmingham, Ala.
Q.—(1) Must one have a license to manage a fighter? (2) I am five feet four inches tall, weigh 127 to 130 pounds. What class should I fight in?
**A.—(1) Yes in every State where boxing is legalized. (2) Junior lightweight.**

P. A. L., New Haven, Conn.
Q. Has an amateur boxer living outside of New York City any chance of appearing in New York on an amateur card? Whom must he see?
**A.—Yes. Ben Levine, A. A. U. headquarters, No. 305 Broadway, New York City.**

Eugene Charlebois, Providence, R. I.
Q.—Could Jack Renault beat Sharkey, Dempsey, Diener and Firpo? Where does he live?
**A.—Might whip Diener and Firpo. Write his manager Leo P. Flynn, Hart Bldg., 42nd Street and Sixth Avenue, New York City.**

## PETE CYR

(*Continued from page* 19)

ordered the $50 paid over to the ringman. The latter had been flung so often against the walls of the structure the stanchions were growing shaky. Fearful of being waylaid by disgruntled woodsmen, the colored man stole away as soon as he was paid and snowshoed back to the railroad station without waiting to sleep at the camp.

In doing it he nearly lost himself and suffered intensely from the cold and the storm. But he was satisfied as long as he escaped from the lumberjacks.

### Only Bout with Boxer

THAT was Pete Cyr's only experience with a full fledged pugilist. He had numerous battles with half and halves. Meaning those who combined the tactics of the ring with those of the codeless rough and tumble.

On one occasion he was matched against a heavyweight grappler who was performing with a touring carnival. When the wrestler was approached with an offer of $50 and expenses to meet Cyr in a logging camp encounter, he immediately accepted what he looked on as soft pickings. As the affair would be held on a Sunday afternoon, there'd be no loss of time from the carnival.

When the clash started, the matman rushed at Pete and attempted to get a hold. Then Cyr opened fire with fists, feet and head. After being used very roughly for about fifteen minutes, the wrestler asked permission to go into one of the buildings and bathe what he claimed was a broken wrist, with iodine. He was allowed five minutes. When he didn't reappear, a search revealed he was nowhere in view. He had made his exit through a rear window and vanished in the woods. Content, evidently, to forfeit the $50.

### Tunney Ignored Him

GENE TUNNEY ignored the challenge of Pete Cyr. As expected. Gene thinks in hundreds of thousands, while Pete's gossip is limited to hundreds without the thous. There is no prospect of such a combat because of the inability to satisfy the champ's demands. But, there are many who feel sure Gene would soon be a broken toy when Pete swung into action, particularly in an indoor struggle. That is if Pete didn't crumble under the first strenuous wallop from the mighty fist of the New Yorker.

Cyr says he can take oodles of punches and stay on his feet. Exclusive of the denatured alcohol punches. He's been hit plump on the button thousands of times, and has ever remained in a vertical position. He's been kicked on the chin and butted in the same location, without sinking. True, he's been off his soles in many conflicts, but only when wrestled to the turf, snow or boards. He's had one rib broken no less than six times. In most of his battles he emerged with some bone broken.

While Pete specializes in the butting process, he is also adept in the manipulation of his hands and his feet. He is skilled in practically all the holds barred in wrestling, and all the practices forbidden in fistiana.

### O, HIT STRAIGHT!

**(Rondeau)**

**By H. L. Edsall**

**O, hit straight, boxer, lest you break**
**Your thumbs; his head you fail to shake**
**Who causes you to turn a punch**
**And smash a joint with a painful crunch:**
**Your lefts and rights will make YOU quake!**

**Fierce thirst to punish you may slake**
**But watch the openings that you take,**
**And if you must your short blows bunch—**
**O, hit straight!**

**Likewise with every jab you Make**
**Be sharp and true; stay wide awake:**
**Don't miss—he'll land. Mayhap you'll munch**
**Your teeth, no hearty boxer's lunch.**
**To keep from fouls, for Record's sake—**
**O, hit straight!**

## HIS LAST BATTLE

*I'M fighting my last big battle*
*One that I'll never forget,*
*Tho' many's the rough road I've traveled,*
*And all of the tough ones, I've met.*
*But I knew from the very beginning,*
*The hour at last had arrived,*
*For he was a lad about twenty,*
*While I was a man thirty-five.*

*WE shook as they do 'fore the battle,*
*Our seconds retired below,*
*I tugged and pulled at the ring ropes,*
*Like they do, when starting the show.*
*At the bell we sprang to the center,*
*And measured each other with eye,*
*He swung and I blocked it quite easily,*
*So I figured a left hook, I'd try.*

*THE rounds were counted in numbers,*
*'Twas near the end of the fight,*
*He jabbed and hooked, but I answered,*
*First with a left, then a right.*
*He had youth and strength, together,*
*His feet were as nimble as deers,*
*While I had the title of Champion,*
*And victories of fifteen years.*

*THE rounds were all about even*
*And I knew with a spine-chilling dread,*
*To linger till end of the battle,*
*The Champion of years would be dead.*
*With fury of beasts that are maddened,*
*I rushed in a blindness of gore,*
*And swung to the head of the youngster,*
*Whose body fell prone to the floor.*

*MY spirit was broken and shattered,*
*Tho' victor I came from the fray,*
*I knew the Champion was finished,*
*As I dragged my body away.*
*I retired with honor and glory,*
*The years have since passed between,*
*Today as I tell of the battle,*
*And the time I was World's Champion.*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Spike Webb ..... 147
Larry Avera ..... 147
Panama Frisco McGale (Col.) ..... 147
Joe Hall (Col.) ..... 135
Tommy Jones ..... 135

## YOUNG GRIFFO

(*Continued from page* 17)

ring then McAuliffe is still the lightweight champion of America.

### Expected Jack to Win

WHEN the match between Griffo and McAuliffe was announced, it was freely predicted that the lightweight title holder would check the upward career of Griffo with a knockout. McAuliffe and his backers could not understand how other lightweights had failed to reach the Australian's jaw with a sleep-producing punch, and he promised to supply the long looked for wallop that would send Griffo back to Sydney.

By way of expressing his contempt for those who had criticised him for a rather free use of varied stimulants during his training operations, McAuliffe had a large tub full of assorted liquors carried to his corner of the ring, and between rounds helped himself to generous potations.

Griffo watched the performance with feelings not entirely unmixed with envy, and his mouth watered as he saw the champion uncork numerous bottles. Yet the latter never offered a drop of cheering fluid to his opponent.

Under the influence of the alcohol McAuliffe started the bout with a furious onslaught, swinging both hands in a desperate effort to reach the elusive jaw of the Australian. But the blows landed only on thin air. Griffo's head bobbed from one side to the other with automatic regularity, and McAuliffe's gloves cleft the air, which made no complaint.

Between the wild swings of the champion, Griffo kept shooting accurate and well timed lefts and rights to the McAuliffe face, much to the irritation of that gentleman.

### McAuliffe Became Infuriated

SEVERAL times during the bout Griffo landed a half dozen stinging blows to McAuliffe's countenance, and then after ducking a simoon of wild swings would step in and with a maddening leer inquire: "Where'll I 'it you next, Jack?"

These tactics infuriated McAuliffe, who increased his frantic but futile rushes and he nearly dislocated his arms swinging at his opponent. At times McAuliffe grew arm weary, was compelled to pause in his wild rushes, and Griffo took advantage of these pauses to pepper his man thoroughly with jabs and hooks. In spite of his efforts McAuliffe did not land one effective blow in the entire ten rounds to which the bout was limited, while Griffo reached McAuliffe with at least fifty clean blows in every round.

To the amazement of all who saw the bout the referee, Maxey Moore, declared McAuliffe the winner, although Griffo had won by the distance from the Bronx to Norton's Point. Griffo weighed 128 to 140 by McAuliffe. In view of his treatment by referees, it is not surprising Griffo failed to win a title. The Sports Alliance should do something for Griffo.

# Fighting Son of Fighting Father

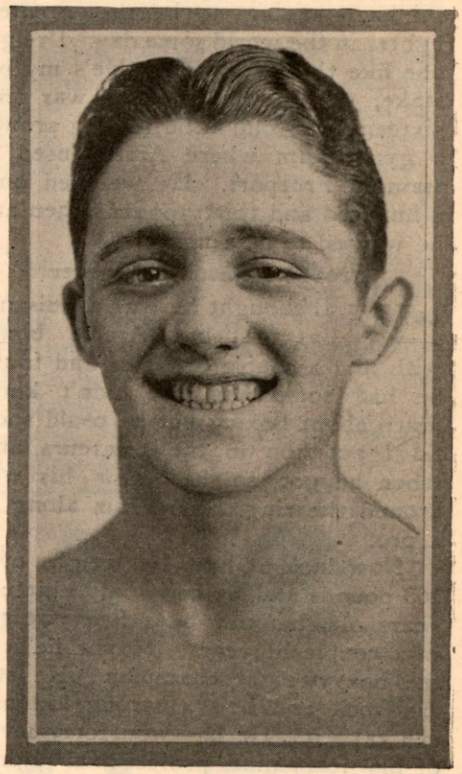
MEET Charles ("Buck") Boyle, Jr., fighting son of a fighter! Al Lippe says he'll be mixed up in the lightweight championship squabble in another year.

Boyle's father, Captain Charles F. Boyle, Sr., is head of the Allentown Police Department, former major league ball player and old time boxer.

"Boyle is one of the best club fighters I have ever looked at," says Lippe. "He is a clever boy, a good puncher and aggressive. He has just defeated Pep O'Brien, Demarco, knocked out Phil Conn, English Champion, Young Tommy Murphy and a host of others. Out of twenty-four bouts only five fighters have the distinction of lasting the limit with Boyle. Buck has yet to lose a decision.

"I have managed some great fighters in my time. Such men as Abe Attell, Joe Gans, Billy Papke, Harry and Clarence Forbes, Benny Yanger, Harry Harris, Harry Lewis, Jeff Smith, Young Corbett, Frank and Tom Loughrey, Frank Moran, and many others too numerous to mention comprise my list. In my mind, this boy, Boyle, is a certainty to fill the boots of one of the above.

"He is a real Irishman—NO IMITATION.



*Buck Boyle*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## EDDIE WALKER

(*Continued from page* 16)

get any big shots, they get plenty of small ones."

Admittedly, he doesn't make seven hundred dollars every month. What, then, is the lure when the dough is scarce and bills must be paid?

"Sooner or later," he says, "every manager gets hold of a fighter he thinks is going to be the greatest fighter in the world some day. I've got one like that in Ebbets. He's my big stake. I got him when he was only sixteen years old, a kid fooling around a gymnasium where Archie used to train in Freeport. He weighed only a hundred and thirty pounds then and he wanted to be a fighter.

### Proved Himself a Fighter

"WE thought he was a nuisance at first but Archie boxed with him a couple of times and found he had something. He didn't know much about boxing but he could sock. So I put him in the amateurs and, when he got so he knew his way around the ring, I sent him along as a pro.

"Now look at him. He weighs over 160 pounds and, as he is only nineteen years old, he may be a heavyweight in a couple of years. Maybe he'll be the heavyweight champion. He still can sock and he's a strong kid and can take it. He has won forty-seven of his forty-nine professional fights, thirty-eight of them by knockouts. I'm taking him along easy, making the right kind of matches for him and building him up."

## BOXING IN EUROPE

(*Continued from page* 13)

The best of the Belgium fighters is Rene Devos, the middle-weight, who holds the championship of Europe. Since Devos left the States he has won about ten fights. Only one defeat has been recorded against him and that was from Jack Walker, the colored boy who represents the stable of General Descamps. It was a point decision in a bout held recently in Milan, Italy.

Piet Hobin, the welter-weight is another very good Belgium battler, Henri Hebrans, is a very fair feather-weight. But like all other European countries Belgium lacks a good heavy-weight. Jack Humbeek is the best big man ever turned out in Belgium, which is not saying much for the heavy-weight crop. But take all in all little Belgium is doing very well in turning out fighters.

### German Notes

THE German heavyweight, Sandwina, is making good headway, and he is considered the best heavyweight proposition that has yet turned up in the Fatherland.

Hans Breitenstraeter, the former heavy-weight champion of Germany is now on a come back stunt. His first fight was against Rosemann which resulted in a draw.

# A Smiling Trio From Boston

*Jim Maloney, Dan Carroll, Managers and "Honeyboy" Finnegan*


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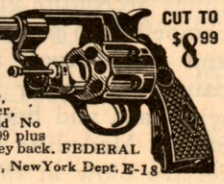

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# Peter Jackson, Giant Negro, Greatest Heavyweight of All Time, Says Veteran

By "BIDDY" BISHOP

WITH the thought only of trying to interest boxing fans I am going to name eight boxers whom I believe were the very best of the several divisions during the past 30 years, or perhaps for all time.

I have seen these eight boxers in action, some of them several times, and have served in the capacity of trainer and second for at least two of them. This gives me a fair idea of their ability. It enables me to make the selections with an intimate knowledge of what I am doing.

Here are the selections—these I pick as the greatest champions of all time, together with their birth places and dates:

**Heavyweight—Peter Jackson, St. Croix, West Indies, July 3, 1861.**

**Light heavyweight—Bob Fitzsimmons, Helsten, Cornwall, England.**

**Middleweight—Stanley Ketchel, Grand Rapids, Mich, Sept. 14, 1887.**

**Welterweight—Tommy Ryan, Redwood, N. Y., March 31, 1870.**

**Lightweight—Kid Lavigne, Bay City, Mich., Dec. 6, 1869.**

**Featherweight—Terry McGovern, Johnstown, Pa., March 9, 1880.**

**Bantamweight—George Dixon, Halifax, Nova Scotia, July 29, 1870.**

**Flyweight—Jimmy Barry, Chicago, Ill., August 5, 1870.**

### Why He Rates Them Thus

MY reasons for giving these ratings are: I have seen all the great heavyweights from John L. Sullivan to the present day. Jim Corbett was by far the cleverest. Jeffries was a strong, rugged hitter. Many of the others had merit but Jackson excelled all of them. He combined cleverness, gameness, generalship, hitting and speed. He was brainy and an excellent judge of pace. He knew more about the inside and finer points of the game than all the others. Jackson was never world's champion for the reason that Sullivan would never meet him.

Bob Fitzsimmons was easily the best of the light heavyweights. He proved this by taking three titles, light heavy, heavy and middle.

Stanley Ketchel had everything that went to make up a champion, particularly skill and hitting. He was game, tricky, aggressive and most determined.

Tommy Ryan topped the welters although Mysterious Billy Smith was a close contender, having boxed three draws with Tommy. Ryan was all class, a great ring general. One of his strongest winning points was proper conditioning.

Kid Lavigne was the greatest lightweight the world ever saw. He was an untiring worker, a hitter, strong and possessed of remarkable vitality. He proved his right to distinction by beating Joe Wolcott twice, once on a knockout.

### The Great McGovern!

TERRY McGOVERN was the best featherweight. He was of the ripping, tearing-in type, a battler who fairly swarmed all over his opponents and outclassed them before they could get started.

George Dixon was the ideal bantam champion, all class.

## Penn Boxing Board Named By Governor

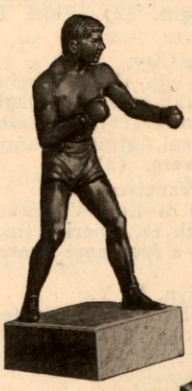
GOVERNOR FISHER finally has selected the Pennsylvania State Boxing Commission. He has announced the retention of Frank Weiner, of Philadelphia, Harvey Boyle of Pittsburgh, and Harry Farrell, of Nanticoke.

Fisher reappointed Weiner and Farrell, whose terms had expired the first of the year. Boyle's terms does not expire until April, 1928.

When Governor Fisher made his reappointments a lively campaign came to a close. For several months sporting and political circles of this State were hustling and bustling for their friends.

Howard Berry, former Penn athlete, and William H. Rocap, who was chairman of the commission until forced to resign by ex-Governor Pinchot, were prominent among those mentioned for the posts.

Wiener replaced Rocap June 2, 1926, and played a prominent role in bringing the Dempsey-Tunney fight to Philadelphia. Near the close of Mr. Pinchot's reign as Governor he reappointed Wiener for two years. His original term would have expired December 31, 1926. Farrell was also named, but when Mr. Fisher took office he recalled both nominations.

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# In Our Question Box

By FRANCIS ALBERTANTI

Gordon Rutland, Alexandria, Tenn.

Q.—What are the addresses of the following: Jack Dempsey, Paul Berlenbach, Tiger Flowers, Rocky Kansas, Louis (Kid) Kaplan, Charley (Phil) Rosenberg, Mickey Walker, Jack Delaney, Jimmy Slattery, Johnny Risko?

**A.—Barbara Hotel, Los Angeles, Cal.: Astoria, L. I.; Camile, Ga.; Buffalo, N. Y.; Meriden, Conn.; c/o Joe Jacobs, Publicity Bldg., 47th Street and Broadway; Rumson, N. J.; Bridgeport, Conn.; Buffalo, N. Y.; Cleveland, Ohio.**

William Werner, Philadelphia.

Q.—(1) How old was Jack Dempsey when he first started boxing? (2) I am sixteen years old, stand five feet five and one-half inches in height. Do you advise me to become a boxer?

**A.—Seventeen. (2) Yes.**

Clarence (Kid) Warnick, Cumberland, Md.

Q.—(1) I am sixteen years old, height five feet six inches, weight 112 pounds. Am I too young to start boxing? What class would I be in? (2) Who is the youngest champion of the world?

**A.—(1) No. Flyweight. (2) Fidel La Barba.**

Jack West, New York City.

Q.—(1) Who would win the following return bouts: Mickey Walker vs. Joe Dundee, Walker vs. Tiger Flowers? (2) Do you think Walker will be a real fighting champ?

**A.—(1) Dundee, Flowers. (2) No.**

Frank Johnson, San Francisco, Cal.

Q.—What has become of Luis Vicentini?

**A.—He is on way back to America from his dear Chile to pick up a few more American goldbacks.**

Arthur Nelson, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Q.—(1) Did Bobby Barrett ever defeat Andy Divodi? (2) Could Sammy Baker beat Divodi?

**A.—(1) No. (2) No.**

Lew Smith, New York City.

Q.—(1) Must a manager pay to get a write-up and pictures in The Ring? (2) Must one have experience to be a manager; where can one get a license?

**A.—(1) No. (2) Yes; Boxing Commission, Flatiron Building.**

A Reader, New York City.

Q.—Would Dempsey beat Corbett and Jeffries if they were in their prime? Dempsey vs. Sullivan?

**A.—No. Sullivan.**

Matthew Semple, New York City.

Q.—(1) Is Lew Tendler a foremost contender for the welter crown? (2) Who would win a Bud Taylor-Phil Rosenberg bout and Jim Maloney-Jack Sharkey return match?

**A.—(1) Yes. (2) Taylor. Sharkey.**

A Reader, Rutland, Vt.

Q.—(1) Do you think Tony Vaccarelli will stage a successful comeback? (2) What do you think of Canzoneri's chances to annex the bantam title? (3) Could Delaney whip Tunney and could De Kuh whip Munn?

**A.—(1) Yes. (2) Excellent if he could make the weight. (3) Yes. Yes.**

A Reader, New York City.

Q.—Who would win the following bouts—Sharkey vs. Dempsey, Flowers vs. Walker, Delaney vs. Sharkey?

**A.—Dempsey, Flowers, Delaney.**

George Williams, Phila., Pa.

Q.—I am eighteen years old, weigh 155 pounds and five feet eight inches tall. Could I train down to the welterweight limit and still be strong.

**A.—No. Dangerous to reduce.**

Fight Fan, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Q.—(1) Who was winning at the time Leonard fouled Britton in the ninth round of the welter championship fight? (2) If Leonard came back, could he beat Mickey Walker?

**A.—(1) Leonard. The foul occured in the twelfth round. (2) Yes with one hand tied behind his back.**

A. W. Beasley, Fort Lyon, Ohio.

Q.—(1) What was the date of the Mickey Walker-Harry Greb fight? (2) Who was Walker's manager at the time?

**A.—July 2, 1925. (2) Perfumery Jack Kearns.**

Vere Hodge, Sacramento, Cal.

Q.—(1) Could Jim Maloney defeat Dempsey? (2) Did Sid Terris ever fight Benny Leonard? Could Terris beat him? (2) Is Young Bob Fitzsimmons fighting yet?

**A.—(1) No. (2) No. No. (3) If he is it's a secret.**

Barney Granoff, Kansas City, Mo.

Q.—Did Clever Sencio and Fidel La Barba ever meet in a twelve round bout in California in the last three years?

**A.—No.**

Woodrow R. Mattern, Middleburg, Pa.

Q.—(1) Is Sid Terris the leading challenger for the lightweight crown. (2) Who would win in bouts between Lew Tendler and Jack Hood and Frankie Genaro and La Barba?

**A.—(1) Yes. (2) Tendler. La Barba.**

Z. Zaber, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Q.—I am sixteen years old, weigh 120 pounds and five feet six inches tall. Am I too young to be an amateur boxer? Where can I get information on amateur boxing, etc?

**A.—No. Look up Ben Levine, A. A. U. headquarters, 305 Broadway, N. Y. C.**

Francis Smith, Connersville, Ind.

Q.—Will there be a return match between Tunney and Dempsey? Who is better?

**A.—Yes. Dempsey.**

John Keller, Long Island, N. Y.

Q.—Who would win a Tony Canzoneri-Phil Rosenberg bout?

**A.—Rosenberg.**

Reader, New York City.

Q.—Where does Andy Divodi live? Could he lick Sammy Baker?

**A.—Union Hill, N. J. Yes.**

Lawrence E. Anderson, Portland, Me.

Q.—What is Gene Tunney's address? Could he beat Delaney? When and where was he born?

**A.—Breslin Hotel, New York City. No. May 25, 1898, New York City.**

Victor Sicilia, New Kensington, Pa.

Q.—(1) Who are some of the men who have beaten Jack Delaney? (2) Who are some of the fighters Berlenbach met when he was an amateur? (3) Is it true that Delaney was beaten twice by the same men?

**A.—(1) Augie Ratner, Young Fisher, Tommy Robson, Jimmy Slattery. (2) Charles Maisl, Ben Butler, Lou Zerguson, Sam Singleton, Joe Pepperton, Sid Smith. Tom Kirby. (3) Yes. Jimmy Slattery.**

James J. Kelley, New York City.

Q.—Who would win in the following bouts—Carl Duane vs. Phil McGraw, Duane vs. Honeyboy Finnegan, Joe Dundee vs. Pete Latzo?

**A.—McGraw, Finnegan, Dundee.**

Henry Rubenstein, New York City.

Q.—(1) Do you think Ruby Goldstein will be a strong contender in the lightweight division with more experience? (2) Could Leonard beat Battling Nelson if both were in their prime?

**A.—(1) Doubtful if Goldstein can make the weight. He is outgrowing the division. He'll be dangerous in the welter class. (2) Yes.**

John Kennedy, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Q.—(1) Who would win the following bouts— Dempsey vs. Delaney, Walker vs. Dundee, La Barba vs. Clark, Canzoneri vs. Abad? (2) Has Andy Divodi a chance to become world champion?

**A.—(1) Dempsey, Dundee, La Barba, Canzoneri. (2) Yes.**

Alfredo Betancourt, Habana, Cuba.

Q.—(1) Who would win a return bout between Tiger Flowers and Mickey Walker? (2) Is Benny Valger a first class boxer? (3) Could Dempsey lick Tunney in a return match? (4) Is Johnny Wilson still fighting?

**A.—(1) Flowers. (2) Yes. (3) Yes. (4) Yes.**

A Friend, New York City.

Q.—Did Delaney ever fight Jack Sharkey? Who would win now?

**A.—No. Delaney.**

Dorothy Pool, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Q.—(1) What is Tunney's address? Dempsey's address? (2) Was Tunney forced to ride in an airplane from his training camp to Philadelphia? (3) Was Dempsey poisoned before the fight? Did he kill a woman after the fight? (4) How many times has Dempsey been married? (5) Was Tunney arrested because he boxed on the stage?

**A.—(1) Breslin Hotel, New York City. Barbara Hotel, Los Angeles. Cal. (2) Some people claim he took the "overland" route to avoid process servers hired by Promoter Clements of Chicago, who tried to stop the fight at the last minute. (3) No. He was sued by a woman who claimed Jack stepped on her feet in his haste to return to the dressing room. (4) Twice. (5) Yes.**

William Armstrong, New York City.

Q.—(1) Was Abe Attell one of the greatest fighters in his class? (2) Was Gene Delmont good? Who are two good men that he fought?

**A.—(1) Yes. Was featherweight champion. (2) Yes. Benny Leonard and Pepper Martin.**

Myron Frey, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Q.—Who would win in following contests —Latzo vs. Baker, Latzo vs. Harmon, Tunney vs. Sharkey?

**A.—Latzo, Latzo, Tunney.**

James Quinn, New York City.

Q.—(1) I am fifteen years old, five feet eleven inches in height and weigh 134 pounds. What division am I in? (2) What are the names of all the champions and one leading contender in each division?

**A.—(1) Lightweight. (2) Champions—heavyweight, Gene Tunney; light heavyweight, Jack Delaney; middleweight, Mickey Walker; welterweight, Pete Latzo; lightweight, Sammy Mandell; featherweight, vacant; bantamweight, vacant; flyweight, Fidel La Barba. Contenders—Jack Dempsey, Mike McTigue, Tiger Flowers, Joe Dundee, Sid Terris, Honeyboy Finnegan, Bushey Graham, Newsboy Brown.**

Maurice Earard, New York City.

Q.—(1) Will Slattery ever come back? (2) Will Phil Kaplan ever be middleweight champion? (3) Who would win in the following bouts—Teddy Baldock vs. Tod Morgan, Yale Okun vs. Jimmy Slattery, Young Stribling vs. Bud Gorman, Mont Munn vs. Pat McCarthy?

**A.—(1) Very doubtful. (2) No. (3) Morgan too big for Englishman. Okun, Gorman, McCarthy.**

# Boxing In New York

By LEFT JAB

PAUL Berlenbach has announced his retirement from the ring to become a lumberman.

The Astoria pugilist who for five years was one of the big figures in the boxing game, said he has had a business opportunity offered him which is so attractive he feels he should accept it.

Berlenbach started out as a wrestler and won honors as an amateur in that sport when Dan Hickey, boxing instructor, persuaded him he would do better as a boxer than as a wrestler. In 1921 he started his ring career which reached its height when he won the light-heavyweight championship from Mike McTigue in 1925.

In July of last year he lost the title to Jack Delaney, long his rival. Recently he came out second best in a bout with McTigue and that defeat probably had much to do with his decision to retire.

Berlenbach is said to have made $250,000 during his ring career, above what it cost him.

### Game Will Miss Him

THE ring will miss Berlenbach, for he always gave his best and never was accused of not trying to the utmost of his ability.

With Berlenbach's going boxing loses one of the rarest fistic prospects the game ever has known.

It is all right to scoff at Berlenbach and call him a false alarm because of his recent defeat at the hands of the veteran Mike McTigue. Berlenbach's record is convincing proof to the contrary.

Jack Delaney universally is hailed as the world's greatest champion at the present time, yet it was Berlenbach who three times put the Rapier of the North to the acid test. And if Berlenbach wasn't a real fighter just look at his remarkable list of knockout victims.

With all due respect to Dan Hickey, whom we admire for many endearing qualities and whom we consider a great boxing teacher, but a poor handler of fighters, it is the mistakes Hickey made with Berlenbach that more than anything else are responsible for Paul retiring just when he should be at his best.

BERLENBACH hammered his way to the title through the sheer weight of his fists and the recognized psychological advantage created by that terrible punching power.

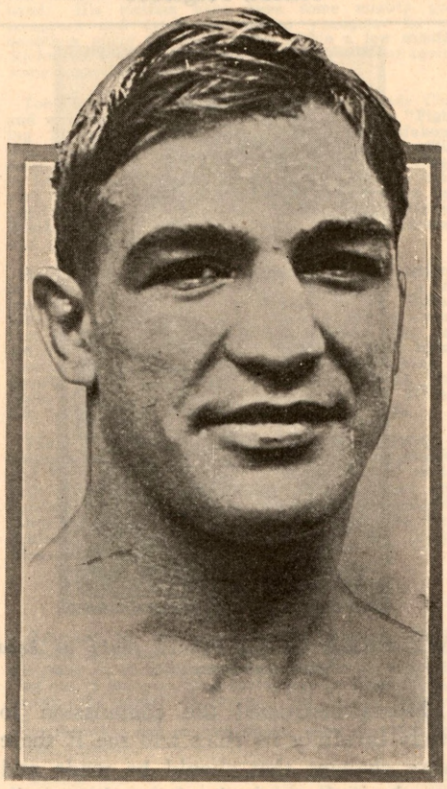
Berlenbach's punch was both his offence and defence. Both were immeasurably weakened by Hickey's attempts to make a boxer of him, which, as this writer declared time and again, was akin to teaching an elephant ballet dancing.

If Berlenbach comes back he will have to come back as a fighter.

Berlenbach had—perhaps still has—the makings of a light heavyweight John L. Sullivan.

No one, not even Hickey, could make a Jim Corbett out of him.

### Quits the Ring



*Paul Berlenbach*

### There are Cases and Cases

THE New York Commission compelled Johnny Dundee, a worthy champion, if there ever was one, as great a little fighting man as ever trod the rosin and a fellow who for more than a decade never failed to give the fans a run for their money, to vacate the featherweight championship.

Louis Kid Kaplan, another little scrapper who invariably did his best, resigned the championship when he found he could not make the weight.

Unable to make the weight, Charles Phil Rosenberg for two years would not defend his title here. Although suspended by the National Boxing Association, which is comprised of boxing boards and officials of all States except New York and Massachusetts, Rosenberg was reinstated by the New York State Athletic Commission, which not only gave him one chance to make the weight, but allowed him three, twice postponing his encounter with Bushey Graham.

After Rosenberg had insisted right up to the last minute he could make the weight and his trainer and manager had informed the newspapermen as late as last Thursday night that he was within three-quarters of a pound of the limit and would make it easily, he stepped upon the scales on Friday four and a half pounds above the bantamweight limit.

### No Cause for Tears

NOW the commission and others are shedding crocodile tears and claiming poor little Rosy did the best he could and the dear little fellow has been punished enough by depriving him of his title.

Did the best he could? Yes? Then how did the professional gamblers know a full week ahead he was coming in over weight and strong as a bull and thereby make him such a pronounce favorite?

And isn't it awful Rosenberg is deprived of a title which he had no right to hold?

And isn't it terrible hard luck that he got $25,000 for this terrible deprivation of the title? You didn't see Johnny Dundee or Kid Kaplan getting any twenty-five grand, did you?

There isn't any one who would go further to help a fellow in a hole than this writer. But there is no need to shed any sobs for Rosenberg. He isn't in any hole. He's up there sitting pretty and giving the merry "Ha Ha" to those who went out of their way to help him when he really was in trouble.

This Rosenberg mess certainly isn't going to do boxing any good.

It is only another weakening and lowering of the authority and direction boxing most needs, the authority and direction which have made boxing the great sport and business it now is and without which boxing soon will start to sink to the mire in which it wallowed before the inception of the Walker law.

It certainly is hard to believe that the same State Commission which laid down the law to Johnny Dundee and Louis Kid Kaplan still is in authority.

If it is the same board, then its wings certainly have been clipped.

Clipping the wings of those whose duty it is to handle the boxing gang eventually can have but one result.

* * *

**Will Not Bother Commission**

AS a result of a conference between Robert Moses, Secretary of State, and the New York Boxing Commission, the commission will continue to run without interference and with system unchanged.

While the rules adopted by the commission may be changed, the changes will be technical and of minor importance.

The rule whereby champions must defend their titles within six months wil remain in force. The commission also will virtually continue picking the logical contender.

The conference was most agreeable as was shown by the pleased expression on the faces of James A. Farley, chairman, and Commissioners William Muldoon and George E. Brower.

The presence of Commissioner Brower was confirmation of the report that he will be named by Secretary Moses to succeed himself.

Moses made it plain that he intends to let the men who have had so much experience in the boxing game run their own department without interference from him.

Owing to the Dempsey-Tunney-Wills situation, though, it was apparent that there is a doubt in the minds of the Governor and his right hand man, as Mr. Moses is known to be, as to whether the commission, as one of the prerogatives should name the man the champion should fight.

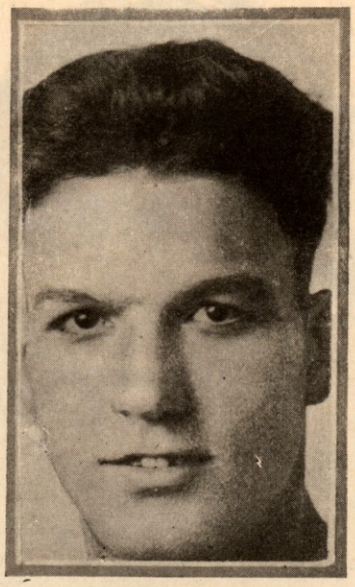
**Brower Would Rescind Rule**

BROWER believes that this rule which he was responsible for adopting when the commission came into existence, should be rescinded. But Farley and Muldoon contend it should remain, although some modifications may be made to it to avoid the disagreeable feature of the situation that developed last summer.

It was apparent that the Governor takes the position that the commission's responsibility to the public is to prevent champions from fighting set-ups. The commission may modify the rule regarding naming of contenders and likely will rescind the rule.

The Governor's attitude that the one duty of the commission is to see that the contestants are equally matched makes it imperative, in the opinion of the majority of the commission that when it comes to championship fights the commission must exercise powers that might be considered arbitrary.

**Rated Highest**



*Jack Delaney, whom Fugazy ranks at head of heavyweights.*

Moses instructed the commission to study carefully its rules and see if there were changes that should be made and to submit the revised rules to him, indicating that the rules the commission would adopt would be satisfactory to him.

**Moses Does Not Know Game**

THE new head of the department of State, which controls the Athletic Commission, made it plain that he knows nothing about the conduct of the boxing game and he intended to leave that part of his duties to the men selected for that purpose. But as the actual head he wanted to get off to a good start by knowing what it is all about.

The secretary had the matter of the six months rule regarding defending championships cleared up to his satisfaction. Boxing authorities had insisted that the six months rule was a part of the Walker Boxing law. The secretary and others had searched every word in the law to find such a provision, but it defied detection.

## FUGAZY'S RATINGS OF BOXERS FOR 1926

**Flyweights**

1—Fidel La Barba, Los Angeles
2—Newsboy Brown, Sioux City
3—Frankie Genaro, New York
4—Blas Rodriguez, Mexico
5—Willie Davies, Charleroi, Pa.

**Bantamweights**

1—Bud Taylor, Terre Haute, Ind.
2—Bushey Graham, Utica, N. Y.
3—Tony Canzonari, Brooklyn, N. Y.
4—Johnny Green, New York City

**Featherweights**

1—Honey Boy Finnegan, Boston
2—Benny Bass, Philadelphia
3—Red Chapman, Boston
4—Charley Rosenberg, New York
5—Johnny Drew, Lowell, Mass.
6—Eddie Shea, Chicago

**Junior Featherweights**

1—Tod Morgan, Seattle
2—Babe Herman, New York City
3—Jack Bernstein, Yonkers
4—Ray Miller, Chicago
5—Al Winkler, Philadelphia

**Lightweights**

1—Sammy Mandell, Rockford, Ill.
2—Sid Terris, New York City
3—Billy Wallace, Alaska
4—Phil McGraw, Detroit
5—Billy Petrolle, Fargo, N. D.

**Welterweights**

1—Pete Latzo, Scranton, Pa.
2—Joe Dundee, Baltimore, Md.
3—Tommy Freeman, Hot Springs, Ark.
4—Willie Harmon, New York City
5—Ace Hudkins, Lincoln, Neb.

**Middleweights**

1—Mickey Walker, Rumson, N. J.
2—Tiger Flowers, Atlanta, Ga.
3—George Courtney, Oklahoma
4—Maxie Rosenbloom, New York City
5—Dave Shade, New York City

**Light Heavyweights**

1—Jack Delaney, Bridgeport, Conn.
2—Tommy Loughran, Phila., Pa.
3—Mike McTigue, New York City
4—Eddie Huffman, Los Angeles, Cal.
5—Yale Okun, New York City

**Heavyweights**

1—Jack Delaney, Bridgeport, Con.
2—Gene Tunney, New York City
3—Jack Sharkey, Boston, Mass.
4—Jim Maloney, Boston, Mass.
5—Harry Wills, New York City

# Fistic News From Old Dixie

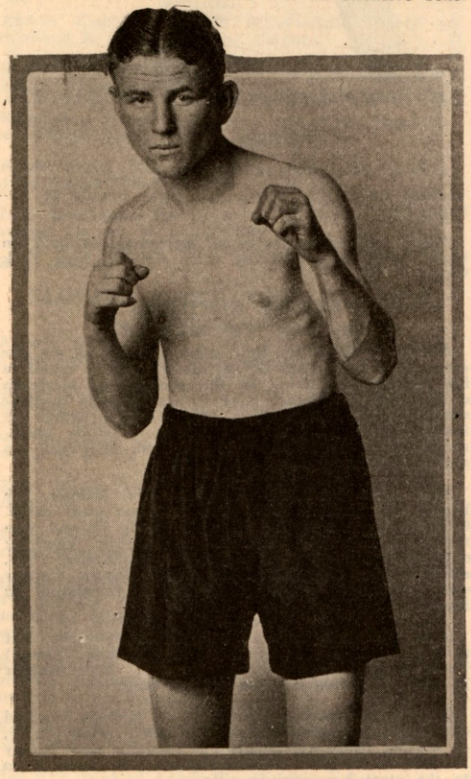
## BOXING FROM VIRGINIA

By RODY DAVIS

Fans hereabous were treated to some dandy fights during December and January and they were very appreceiative of the efforts of the fighters.

The great favorite of this section is still George Leslie, clever and hard hitting little featherweight from the army. There is no boy anywhere around this section of Leslie's weight who can afford to take any chances when in the ring with the crack soldier. He is tough as whit-leather, game to the core, a good, hard hitting fellow and clever, too. In the opinion of the writer there is no other asset needed by any young fighter.

Lately he has engaged in three star bouts in Richmond. Two were for fifteen rounds each and both against Red Leonard of Baltimore. The first was Leslie's fight but was called a draw and the return fight decision was given to George without hesitation. Boy, those two bouts were surely corkers from start to finish. This Leonard is a hard pusher in all his fights, but in the soldier he met an offensive boxer



*Jimmy Marpon*

who was more than his match. They put up two slashing fights and the fans present voted them the best bouts ever seen in Richmond. Both boys showed themselves to be in fine condition and clean sportsmen.

The other fight showing Leslie was for ten rounds against Frankie Masonis, the army lightweight entry in the Sesqui-Centennial Service matches. This also was a corking hard scrap and was very clean throughout. In the opinion of the writer Leslie gained the verdict but the referee called the affair even. Masonis outweighed his opponent several pounds.

This Masonis is a dandy scrapper as is attested to by the fine fifteen round fight he and Battling Eddie Booth put up at the Arcade Club in Richmond. Here we saw a fight which was evenly contested throughout and the referee's decision of "draw" was well received. Booth is a Richmond boy while Frankie is stationed at Langley Field, Virginia.

Booth and Billy Harris, another army boy, fought a ten-round semi-final to the Leslie-Masonis match. Both boys fought hard and there was not much to choose between them at the finish. The fight took place at the Commonwealth Club and the opinion of most of those present was that the army fighter had shown to be the best scrapper. A re-match of this pair will make a good fight for any club.

Eddie Booth deserves a great deal of credit for his rise as a boxer. He has been boxing only eighteen months or so and is now under the tutelage of Joe Chaney, lightweight scrapper and brother of the famous K. O. George Chaney. Eddie has beaten some mighty good youngsters and any time he enters the ring you can rest assured of seeing a nice bout.

Fireman Griffin, Richmond 160 pounder and local pride, won by a technical K. O. over George Freeberg of Mitchell Field in the fourth round at the Arcade Club in Richmond. Freeberg was willing enough and landed some good socks on Griffin but after absorbing quite a few of tthe local man's right handers he was pretty nearly out and Paddy Mills, the referee, stopped the fight. The fireman can certainly hit with his right and if he learns to use his left he will be dangerous.

Willie Ptomey very decisively trimmed Griffin in a fifteen round main affair. It was all Ptomey, though Griffin did his best and proved to be one of the toughest birds around this section of the country. The punches he took would have put away most of them but the fireman kept on his feet, though at times it seemed that he must go down. Ptomey is the middleweight champ of the entire Army, Navy and Marines, weighing only 152 pounds. He is tall and rangy, clever and a dandy hitter with either hand. His victims have been some mighty good scrappers and as he is only a youngster he will doubtless make the high grade within a few months. Richmond fans want to see him again anytime against some good opponent.

Joe Chaney, boxing instructor of the Arcade Club, and weighing 138 pounds, beat Mahoney, the "Fighting Marine" in a fifteen round match. Mahoney was outclassed all the way but put up a game, willing scrap, being floored several times. Joe seems always to keep in shape and he can certainly fight, being very clever and a terrific puncher. It is more than possible that Mahoney will be matched with Battling Booth, protege of Chaney for a bout in Richmond and this will prove a fine fight.

Artie Casola, former Richmonder, and now stationed at Fortress Monroe, beat Kid Holland in a ten rounder. It was quite a surprise to see Holland licked as he is a hard man to beat and it seemed that he was badly out of shape, however, that does not keep away the fact that he took a neat lacing. Casola has improved a lot under the teaching of Speedy Lawrence, former Service lighweight king. Given plenty of time to condition himself Holland will make a wonderful return match for Casola.

The Grays Athletic Association after stopping its boxing programs for three months is now reorganizing and if successful will start showing the best of the men of this section in monthly shows. Many good fighters have shown there in the past, including Andy Bowen, Joe Chaney, George Leslie, Lou Guiglimini, Andy Tucker, Willie Ptomey and Johnny Meyers.

## FLORIDA FISTICS NEWS

By RED NEWTON

Featured by the appearance of Sammy Mandell, world's lightweight champion, and Paolino Uzcudun, claimant to the European heavyweight championship, and one of the recognized contenders for Gene Tunney's crown, the month of January has been a busy one as far as boxing is concerned in Tampa. Promoter Jim Downing put on five shows, each of which drew large crowds.

Boxing fans in and about the Florida West Coast were not particularly impressed by Paolino, the "Basque Woodcutter." For eight hectic rounds he pounded away at the lengthy countenance of Homer Smith, Michigan heavyweight. The referee stepped into the fray and called a halt.

Paolino sustained a smashed right mauler as the result of clipping Smith's dome a little too hard. And he was forced to cancel the scheduled affair with Knute Hansen in the Garden on Feb. 7.

Tampa fans are predicting that Paolino will not go very far in Tex's elimination contest. The Spanish-French heavy carries a terrific wallop, believes in fighting every minute of the bout, but he lacks that flashy style of Jack Delaney and that knowledge of the fighting game that Gene Tunney possesses. In other words Paolino knows how to cut wood but he does not know the classics of boxing.

Florida's boxing fandom was far more impressed with Sammy Mandell, who outpointed Armando Shekels, 20 year old Belgium lightweight champion, in 10 rounds of fast and furious hitting. Sammy will probably not be drawn into signing a "blind" contract again. Or rather Eddie Kane, his manager, will turn down such a proposition.

When Kane signed the contract he agreed to meet any lightweight in the South Downing would select. Downing turned his attention to a youngster by the name of Young Manuel, who recently copped the Cuban lightweight title. Kane and Mandell looked Manuel over, shook their heads, and rumor has it that they informed Downing they would meet Manuel on the one condition, that Mandell's purse was to be $30,000.

Shekels won only one round against Mandell, the third. But in that stanza he tore into the Rockford shiek, cut his lip and whipped him to a frazzle with a wicked left. The youngster however, seemed overawed at Mandell's rep and cooled down after that. However, he retained enough pep and enthusiasm to amuse eight thousand fans after the battle by dancing the Charleston in the arena.

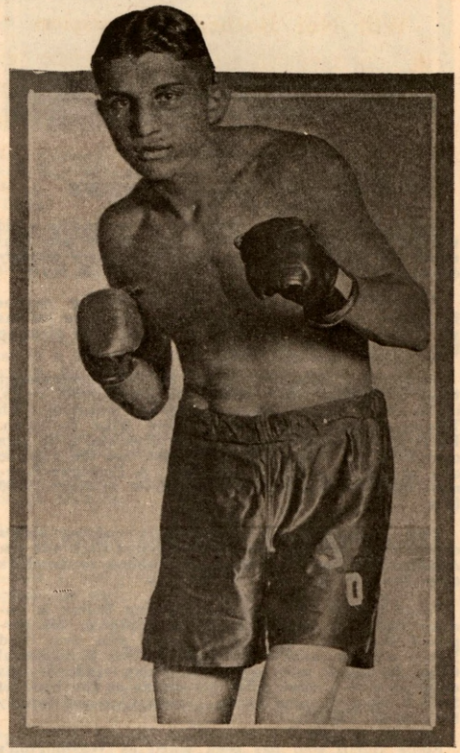
## NEW ORLEANS GOSSIP

By HAROLD BUCKLEY

Tony Marullo returned from Philadelphia where he boxed Tommy Loughran last month. His father-manager, "Pops" Marullo, has received offers from various promoters throughout the country for his son's services. One is from Paterson, N. J., offering him Lew Chester. Tony is back to his old-time fighting form since his recent operation, which hindered him from showing his best.

Billy Kennendy is getting in shape for several matches that he has been offered throughout the South. Kennedy has not shown in a local ring in several years and may be pitted against some leading junior-lightweight sometime the latter part of this month.

Milton Manguno, one of the most promising bantamweights in the country today, will depart with his



*Johnny Dorando*

manager Sidney Brown, for Memphis and Hot Springs, where he has been offered several bouts.

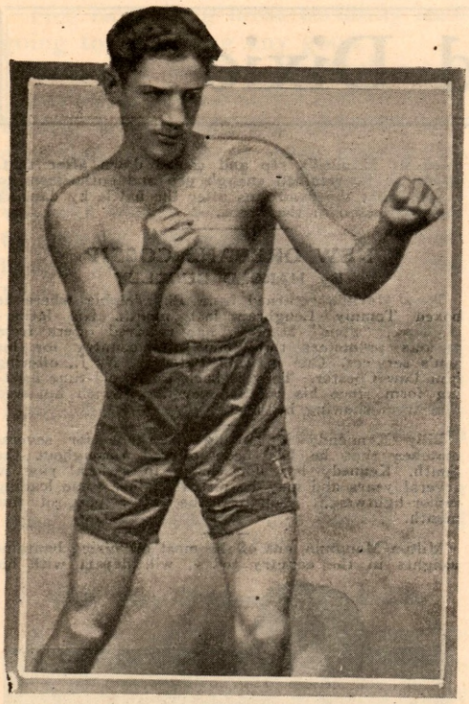
Manguno has been only boxing "pro" for one year and during that time has engaged in twenty-six fights without a defeat. He is only 18 years old and has speed, stamina, heart and all the other qualities that go along to make a good fighter. This writer can safely predict that in another year Manguno will be the outstanding bantamweight in the country. Remember that name MILTON MANGUNO!

Amos (Kid) Carlin will start on an extensive campaign sometime this month that his manager, Paul La Croix, has mapped out for him. Carlin has taken a long needed rest and is back to his old-time fighting form.

There is some talk about matching Tony Canzoneri and Carlin. Canzoneri hails from this city and only boxed here as an amateur. He was former 100-pound champion. If this match is made they will have to hang out the old S. R. O. sign, something that has not been done since Happy Littleton retired several years ago.

Martin Burke turned in an impressive win in the Madison Square Garden last month when he knocked out the Swedish heavyweight champion, Otto Von Porat, in eight rounds. Burke, since joining the Benedicts, has made some wonderful fights. He is listed in Tex Rickard's heavyweight ranking.

Joe Lewis, local lightweight, who departed for the Pacific Coast several months ago, is meeting with great success out there, according to all reports. Lewis has engaged in six bouts and has been returned winner in all except one, which was declared a draw.



*Lew Perfetti*

## WASHINGTON, D. C., NEWS

By PATSY DONOVAN

Harry Kid Groves, of Washington, is making rapid strides at Hagerstown, Md., where he is now considered more or less a home town boy. Harry recently defeated Billy Harris there over the 12-round route.

Terry O'Day is another local boy having success in Hagerstown, in three starts there to date he has yet to be defeated. Terry is one of the most pleasing boxers around Washington.

Al Foreman, Washington, bid for the featherweight title, is making rapid strides in Philadelphia rings, in his three starts there so far he has defeated, Irish Tommy Jordan, Carl Tremaine and Mike Ballereno. He is now matched to meet Eddie Shea and if he gets over Shea his manager Gene Kessler, has the promise of a shot at Honey Boy Finnegan. A Finnegan-Foreman fight in Washington would draw at least 15,000 fans.

Two Washington Clubs are again running shows on the Club member plan. The Aloysius Club and the Arcadia Club run their bi-monthly shows to members only.

Texas Stovall, Washington's fighting Indian is another fighter to win regularly out of town. He surprised Baltimore fans by his easy win over Bud Nolan, who is rated fairly highly in the Monumental City. Just how good a fighter Nolan really is was demonstrated a week after his defeat at the hand of Stovall when he came to the Arcadia Club and handily beat Jack Turner.

Eddie Buell, who has been voted as Washington's most popular boxer, showed his real class here recently by handing Eddie Bowen of Cleveland, Ohio, a real honest-to-goodness pasting at the Aloysius Club. Buell hit Bowen with every kind of punch but the game Clevelander came back for more at all times. Buell weighed 118 pounds and Bowen 125. Buell appeared to be far too classy for the game Bowen.

A local boy who is causing quite a stir is Paul Healey, to date an opponent has not gone the distance with Healey. To date he has appeared in about ten bouts and always disposed of his opponent. Healey was a former amateur boxer around New York and is far from being a novice. His stable-mates Terry O'Day and Eddie Buell, are priming him in the finer points.

Sailor McKenna is another local boy to come right along, Mack has yet to suffer defeat, although he has not compiled the K. O. record Healey has. Both boys weigh about the same, 130, and a capacity house will be on hand when the pair meet.

Eddie DeSimon, Fort Myer soldier boy, is improving with every start. Last month he boxed two bang-up fights with Buster Brown in Baltimore. Brown, by the way, is the best looking prospect to come out of Baltimore since Joe Dundee. He is a cousin of Joe and was formerly known as Buster Dundee.

Fats Cornell now making matches for the Aloysius Club, has proved a big success, the members are more than satisfied with his efforts to date. His efforts have put the Club in very good standing with the local fans.

After a lay-off for practically a year, Andy Bowen has reentered the ring, in his two starts to date here he has defeated Billy Harris and George Leslie.

## NOTES FROM ALABAMA

By S. P. CARPRI

Mike Romano, the Ensley Athletic Club's welterweight, met Battling Bozo of Birmingham in a six-round exhibition.

At the Birmingham Athletic Club.—John McGinty, the Ensley light heavyweight, won on a foul from Soldier Tommy Ryan in the fifth round of a scheduled ten-round bout. Both Ryan and McGinty fought savagely throughout the battle, with neither showing much of a margin.

Freddy Boorde and Kid Andrea of Montgomery put on ten rounds of lively going. In the other ten-rounder Boorde won the decision.

At the Ensley Athletic Club.—Mike Romano defeated Big Boy Loppi, weighing 182 pounds, in a six-round bout for the championship of the club.

Tommy Mandell, 132 pounds, defeated Young Jones, 136 pounds, in another six-rounder for the lightweight chamionship of the club.

At the Birmngham A. C.—Johnny McGinty knocked out Soldier Tommy Ryan in the sixth. Ryan won the first two rounds, but in the third McGinty got started and mauled Ryan all over the ring.

## KANSAS GOSSIP

By JESS RISNER

Denver Kid, of Kansas City, won an edge over Bat Stewart, of Joplin, in the main event of a hard fought ten-round bout at Independence. Henry Neniger stopped Kid Smith in three rounds.

Joe Kopfer took the popular decision in ten rounds over Eddie Dwyer at Clay Center. Kansas Kid Easter, Chanute welter, won every round of the ten from Bennie Adams.

Kansas Kid Easter won by a big margin over Warrior Homakato, Sioux Indian, in ten rounds at Springfield. Tommy Irvine and Joey Coaster fought ten rounds to a draw.

Promoters in western Kansas continue to import Hams and Dubs and feed Hoots Burger. They all fall for Burger. Burger has fought twenty-four fights and won all of them by a knockout. The promoters are showing a great deal of respect for good old Kansas and Oklahoma heavies. To find out how really tough this Burger is the fans should demand that he be sent against some of the heavies in the immediate vicinity mentioned.

Sammy Mandell lightweight champion, romped to an easy victory in his ten-round setto with Jimmie Lanning at Pittsburg, Kans. By ccntinual clinching and wrestling Lanning managed to stick the ten frames. In a ripping ten-round semi-final Denver Kid punished Kid Maltibie badly and hung the K.O. on him in the seventh round. Baxter Kid stopped Kid Ketchell in the seventh round of the opening ten.

In a ten-round feature staged by the American Legion at Wellington, Kans., Kansas Kid Easter won nine rounds out of the ten from Levi Toms, of Hutchison.

Sammy Mandell won a ten-round newspaper decision from Eddie Dwyer at Wichita.

Jimmie Deering, Sedalia welter, has returned from the west coast after a successful campaign.

## EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA FLASHES

By J. AUSTEN SHAY

Battling Willard, Lancaster welterweight, scored a technical knockout over Jimmy Golden, of Philadelphia, in the fourth round at Reading. Within the past year Willard knocked out Frankie Brooks, of Allentown and George Dewey. Willard has met Joe Anderson, Pete August, Pat Haley, Tim Droney, Nate Goldman, Pedro Campo.

"Irish" Dick Curtin, of Lebanon, will fight hereafter as a welter-weight. In his first start in the heavier class Dick scored a knockout over High Hat McCoy, of Reading, in six rounds, at Reading.

Emery Gabana, of Portland, Maine, won the judges' decision over Joe Bush, of Shenadoah, in ten rounds, at Reading. Joe Kuhns, of Reading, stopped Terrance Barry O'Moore, of Ireland, in the second round on the same card.

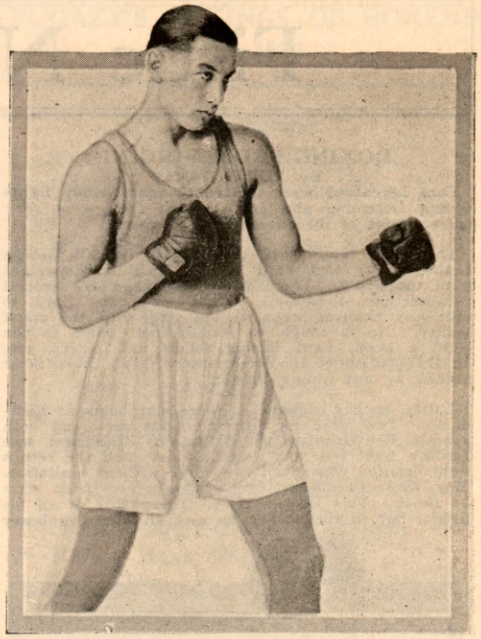
Len Brenner, Lancaster featherweight, scored a technical knockout over Jimmy Burns, of Atlantic City, in the fourth round, at Lancaster. "Red" Delp, of Reading, lost the decision to Dave Shank, Lancaster cop.

Johnny Gill, of York, stopped Carl Young, of Lebancn, in one round in the semi-final to the Tommy Cooney-"Kid" Wallace fight, which was a draw.

Dave Shank, Lancaster middleweight, knocked out Carl Young in the first round.

Teddy Squint, Reading bantamweight, who has been out of the ring for the past year or two, will try and is staging a comeback.

Tommy Laberto. lightweight, has taken a few weeks off to have his tonsils removed. Tommy gained the decision over Billy Pimpus in eight rounds at Atlantic City.



*George Levine*

"Turk" Hartman, Lebanon sportsman, is back in town again, after spending some time in New York City.

## MAINE MUSINGS

By RAN WEATHERBEE

Although buried in deep snow and chilled by the extreme cold that has drived many to their radios, a few Maine fans living in the snow-bound stretches of the Pine Tree State have witnessed some thrilling ring battles. For whether they have to travel by flivver, as in Portland and Lewiston, or by snowshoe, as in Brownville and Houlton, the real fan must have his fights.

Along the ice-bound Penobscot in Bangor the Richardson brothers have put on some good cards. Chief of these was that in which Tony Carnay won the New England bantamweight title by knocking out Tony Mandell, of Worcester, in one round. Then, after winning over Terry Parker in Boston, Carney was outpointed by Ruby Levine, of Lewiston, in Bangor.

Ernie McIntyre, veteran colored middleweight, lost to the Utah Kid in Houlton, and Aldane (Young) Pooler, another old-timer, knocked out Slasher Rodgers, a native son, in another bout.

Over at Brownville Junction, Bat. Nichols knocked out One Man McKluskey in one round. Nick Carter, of Boston, broke even with Pal Lorraine and Jimmy Maroon, of Bangor. Nichols, by the way, lays claim to the state heavyweight title.

Irish Barney Grant, of Lewiston, knocked out K. O. Chubboch, of the Bar L Ranch, in five rounds, and later took the count himself at the hands of Johnny Laroux at Manchester, N. H., in the seventh.

Johnny McIntyre, junior welterweight, was knocked out by Harry (Kid) Brown, of Philadelphia, at Portland.

Johnny Saxon, sparring partner for Jack Dempsey while the ex-champion was training for the Tunney bout, gave George Kid Lee a hard battle, was K.O.'d by Al Mello and was stopped by Laddie Lee, former Holy Cross athlete, in the fifth round at Portland, Maine.

Ruby Levine won over Jerry Vitale, of Beverly, and Cannon Ball Cote floored Buddy Clark, of Salem, but lost the decision.

Newport Johnny Brown evened his score with Steve Smith when he scored a victory in one of Chick Hayes' Arena A. A. shows. Dick Lambert, of Berlin, N. H., defeated Ray Cross, of Milford, Mass., former national amateur champion, in six rounds, and Young Brown, of Biddeford, K.O.'d Young Murray, of Chelsea, in the second.

Charles Kane, state motorcycle cop and heavyweight wrestler, has been showing at the Grand Opera House in Boston. He lost to Karl Sarpolis in a preliminary to the Stasiak-Malcewicz championship bout.

Amony the Maine fighters that have been driven to the basket ball courts by a lull in the boxing situation are Young Pooler and Kid Stanchfield.

## BOXING IN HAVANA

By MILTON BARON

One of the biggest crowds ever in a Havana stadium turned out to see Paulino Uzcudun, Spanish heavyweight, knock out Antolin Fierro, Cuban, in the first round. More than 15,000 attended the show.

Luis Pincho Gutierrez, who promoted the fight, was introduced from the ringside before the battle went on and received an ovatioin. He is one of the most popular men in the boxing game here.

Martin Perez knocked out Abdel Kebir in the fourth round. Both are middleweights.

Ramon Perez, bantam contender for the Cuban crown, scored a two round knockout over Tommey Albear.

Pierre Gandan, French midddleweight, knocked out Vega Rubin in one round. Young Manuel, Cuban lightweight, defeated Armando Shakels in twelve rounds. Shakels had previously won six consecutive fights in Cuba.

Cirilin Olano was the next victim of Young Manuel.

Pablo Blanco defeated Jose Rodriguez in four rounds.

Antonio Herrera scored a six round victory over Arturu Rey. Both are featherweights.

Andres Castano, Spanish heavyweight, scored a two round K. O. over Soldier Vergara.

Paulino Uzcudun scored a one round knockout over Martin O'Grady of California,

Relampago Suaguero scored a one round knockout over Urbano Solera, Cuban lightweight.

Ab-del Kebir, Morroco middleweight, was knocked out by Soldier Iglesia in four rounds.

Lalo Dominguez has a string of pupils who are learning the art of self-defense at the Iberia Club. It was Lalo who put the skids under Stanislau Loyaza a year ago.

## FLORIDA WEST COAST NOTES

By "SARASOTA PETE"

Arturo Shekels was awarded a close decision over Al Van Ryan, St. Paul welterweight.

Alf Simmons, English lightweight, had a successful trip here. While he was here he fought a great battle with Frankie Osner, later boxed Ponce De Leon, the Cuban welter, and finally scored a knockout over Gene Durah.

Billy Wells had little trouble beating Julian Jim Moran.

Eddie Dempsey, Philadelphia welter, and Julian Jim Moran boxed ten rounds to a draw.

Homer Smith, heavyweight, was selected as trial horse for the American debut of Paolino. Paolino won hands down but the Spaniard failed to show much.

Roy Wallace, Indianapolis light-heavy, made a favorable impression when he knocked out Eddie Campbell in the first round.

Kid Peck, St. Petersburg lightweight, knocked out Soldier Diaz of Havana in the fourth round.

Ben Ray defeated Anisio Varella, Cuban lightweight, in 10 rounds. Ollie Joyner, Bradenton welterweight, defeated Leonard Pate in eight rounds. Jo Jo Johnson knocked out Earl Hudson in the fourth round.

## MINNESOTA NEWS

By MURRAY McLEAN

Mike Mandell is the big noise in Minnesota rings at the present time. Mike made his professional debut in November at Minneapolis when he stopped Benny Bohn in the first round. Mandell weighed 169 pounds to Bohn's 185, but Mike's heavy hitting was too much for Benny. Mandell then beat Lou Rollinger of Waterloo, Iowa, in two bouts of six and eight rounds each, Rollinger outboxing Mandell, but Mike winning on account of his heavy punching and aggressiveness. Next Mandell was matched to fight Farmer Lodge.

The farmer weighed in at 230 pounds to Mandell's 169 pounds, but Mike stopped him in two rounds. After knocking Lodge down and partly through the ropes and badly cutting him about the face, the referee humanely stopped the bout as Lodge could not see Mandell. A match with Duke Horn of Minneapolis was in the making and it would have drawn a large house as Mandell is from St. Paul and there would have been a lot of inter-city interest, but Mandell fought Jack McCann of Bismarck, N. D., first, and McCann won on a technical knockout in the fifth round when Mandell's seconds threw in the towel after Mike had been knocked down five times. Mandell lost to McCann but he had no alibis to offer after the bout.

It was Mike's first defeat and the first time that he was ever on the canvas and although in a bad condition throughout the fourth round and what there was of the fifth, he gamely carried on and continued to fight back at all times and refused to allow the referee to stop it after the fourth round, when he offered to do so. Mandell made friends even when defeated and the fans will welcome him back again.

The McCann-Mandell bout for heavyweights was the most furiously fought seen in a Minnesota ring in many years and the crowd was in an uproar all through the bout. Mandell proved to his friends that he can take a beating as well as deal one out and also proved that every time he starts there is bound to be a fight. His managers say that after a short rest he will resume boxing and will be ready for any of them his weight.

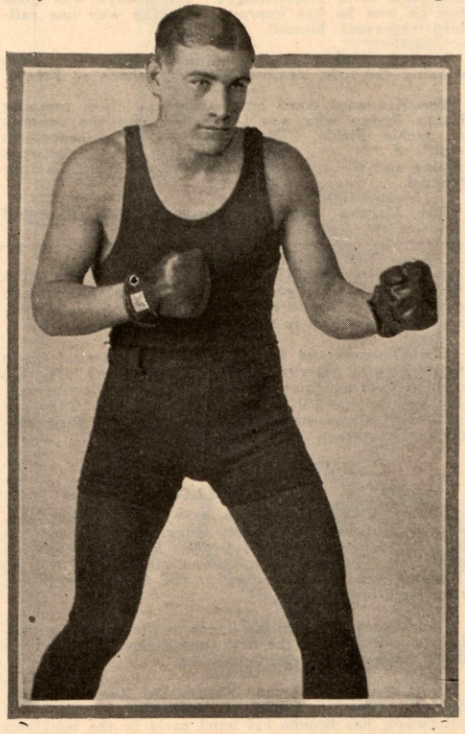
Billy Light, the St. Paul junior welterweight since starting as a professional almost a year ago, has not been defeated. His latest wins were over Jimmy Ryan of Des Moines and Frankie Dory of Marinette. He met Ryan in Minneapolis and took every round from the tall boy from the corn state, Ryan being on the defensive most of the bout. Light gave Dory a terrible lacing at Oshkosh, Wis., taking every round of the eight and scored two knockdowns. Light is coming fast and will soon be ready for the top notch boys.

Johnny O'Donnell, who broke his collarbone in his bout with Billy Petrolle, is around again and will resume training soon. All he asks is another bout with Jack Hurley's great lightweight.

Gussie Schlaifer, bantamweight of St. Paul, is going to turn professional soon and the fans will see a great little hitter in Gus when he starts.

Percy Villa, Minneapolis, featherweight, is going great and winning steadily. Percy throws lots of gloves and is improving with every start.

Britt Gorman is another Minneapolis boxer who is going good. His wins over Jack Shannon, Jackie Aguer, Pinkie George and Jackie Clark were all to the mustard and he will be matched to fight Harry Soo Quong Bill, the Des Moines flyweight, and Sid Kelly of Milwaukee soon. Pete Rieves is his manager.



*Johnny Liano*

## NOTES FROM SOUTH JERSEY

By HARRY DOLFUS

Bobby Michaels, Philadelphia lightweight, knocked out Angel Guidici twice at the Cambria Club, Philadelphia. The bouts went four and two rounds.

Scotty McDonald, Scotch featherweight champ, scored an impressive victory when he knocked out Johnny Dixon, of Newark, in the third round at Lakewood, N. J.

Frankie Vance, promising welterweight, defeated Joe Spearing, of Camden, in eight rounds, at Bridgeton, N. J.

Pete Post has turned his attentions to running shows at Moose A. C., in Bridgeton.

Slim Conrad, Irish light heavyweight, held Jackie Donahue to a draw in eight rounds, and gave Bobby Evans a hard ten-round fight at Morristown.

Charlie Cunningham, flyweight, made nice showings in his last encounters with Sammy Schwartz at Lakewood, Al Coulhon at Norristown and Patty O'Brien at Philadelphia.

Mickey Larkin, flyweight, is chasing after matches with Tommy Dundee, Young Firpo, Pee Wee Ross, Marty Gold and Young Chappie.

Boxing has a big hold in South Jersey. Clubs are flourishing in Camden, Gloucester, Atlantic City, Salem, Vineland, Bridgeton and Beachhaven.

Lewis Chasen has leased a large hall for semi-monthly shows at Vineland, N. J.

Scotty McDonald beat Young Firpo, of Pennsgrove, in eight rounds at Moose A. C., Bridgeton. Herb Green, lightweight, knocked out Benny Barnard in one round in the semi-final.

Buck Fleming, featherweight, made a hit with the fans of Lakewood, N. J., in his ten-round draw with Sammy Moffo.

Slim Conrad knocked out Bunny Blake in two rounds at Norristown.

Lew McFarland, former featherweight and junior lightweight champion of the Pacific Coast, is located in Camden as a manager. In his stable are Joe Lill, heavyweight champ of the Marine Corps; Ray Lawler, 175 pounds; George Carney, 142 pounds; Freddy Tooley, 137 pounds; Johnny Corbett, 130 pounds; Tiger Manuel Flores, 130 pounds; Sugar Babe Garlington, 126 pounds, and Frankie Parris, 110 pounds.

Mike Gordon, who formerly staged shows in Trenton, N. J., is running shows every week at Lakewood and Long Branch, N. J.

Frankie Vance added two victories when he defeated Gene Gaffner at the Moose A. C., Bridgeton, and Tony Salvia, of New York, at Lakewood.

Higgins and Caplin are the outstanding promoters in this section since Kennedy and Cooke, rival promoters in Camden, quit.

Joe Crossen, former middleweight boxer, is managing Ray Maxwell, who recently scored wins over Whitey Fitzgerald, Gene Gaffner and Tommy O'Toole.

Patsy Moffo, brother of Sammy Moffo, 130 pounds; Billy Moffo, 135 pounds; and Eddie Moffo, 145 pounds, is managing the three boxers.

## TRENTON FLASHES

By SOX PINTO

Clin Smith brought together Joe Reno and Jesse Goss in a ten-round bout. The local morning paper gave it to Reno and the evening paper to Goss. Smith rematched the boys two weeks later and both papers gave it to Reno.

In Trenton Blas Rodriguez, of Mexico, and Marty Gold, of Philly, fought a draw.

After a layoff of four months, Tommy West is back in training.

Ray Maxwell, of Philadelphia, was having the best of the fight with Tip Gorman, of Camden, until the fourth round, when the boys clashed heads. Maxwell received a nasty cut over the eye and the referee stopped the bout.

## IN IOWA RINGS

By BOB WAGNER

Clyde Drury, Iowa middleweight, has started boxing again after a layoff due to a bad hand. Drury is one of the best middleweights in the middlewest.

One of the largest crowds in the history of boxing turned out at Cedar Rapids to see Chief Metoquah beat Bearcat Wright in ten rounds. The two heavyweights furnished the fans with plenty of action. Frankie Whitney has signed Clyde Drury sensational Iowa middleweight to headline the next card there.

Elmer Leonard won over Billy Lyons in eight rounds at the Des Moines A. C. Both are local lightweights. In the other eight round bout Carl Scales lost a close decision to Merle Douglas another local lightweight.

Harry Soo Quong Bill, flyweight lost to Ernie Peters classy Chicago flyweight in ten rounds at Chicago.

Tuffy Griffiths, Sioux City welterweight and Louie Mays of Des Moines boxed eight rounds to a draw at Sioux City.

Britt Gorman, St Paul flyweight gave Pinkey George of Des Moines a boxing lesson in six rounds and won the decision at Minneapolis.

Glen Lage flashy welterweight of Des Moines will be back in the game in a few weeks. Lage suffered a broken hand in his fight with Emil Morrow at Waterloo in January.

Emil Morrow of Sioux City had little trouble in knocking out Billy Bowden a local welterweight in five rounds.

Kenneth Hunt local lightheavy weight who is under the management of Joe Kelley of Des Moines has made great progress the last few months. Hunt has engaged in some twenty-two bouts and won them all.

# What They Are Doing in California

By THERON FISK

Roscoe Hall, Des Moines lightweight won a ten round decision over Joe Trabon at Kansas City, Kans. Hall after a layoff of two months has won his last eight starts.

A boxing bill has been introduced in Iowa and local managers, promoters and fans are all hoping it will be made legal.

At the first 1927 meeting of the State Boxing Commission, Louis B. Almgren, commissioner from San Diego was elected Chairman to succeed Capt. Seth W. P. Strelinger, the Los Angeles member who voluntarily resigned. Charles Traung, of San Francisco newly appointed member to succeed William Hanlon whose term expired, attended and it was voted that Commissioner Traung should hold forth in San Francisco instead of Sacramento. Chairman Almgren will maintain offices at San Diego and Commissioner Strelinger at Hollywood. Walter Yarwood continues as secretary of the Board with headquarters at Sacramento the State Capital.

Jack Doyle, it is understood will again captain his own ship. The millionaire promoter resigned active charge prior to sailing for Europe. His return, however and characteristic pace will undoubtedly make Vernon once more the Whitespot of fightdom in California.

Jim Jeffries and Tom Sharkey are being featured by the Al G. Barnes circus. The old boys just completed a successful vaudeville tour.

Ad Wolgast and Joe Rivers are rehearsing an act and may be seen in vaudeville this summer.

John L. Sullivan will be portrayed in the movies. Christian Frank will play the role of John L. in Wallace Beery's new picture "Casey at the Bat."

One-Eyed Connolly crashed into Los Angeles for the winter.

Matt J. Hinkel, widely known referee and Cleveland promoter was a Los Angeles visitor, combining business and pleasure.

Floyd Fitzsimmons was a guest of Jack Dempsey in Los Angeles and announced that he would be promoting major boxing attractions in Detroit soon.

Leo Lomski's win over Tiger Flowers met with the approval of Mickey Walker who was at the ringside and part of the great crowd that filled Mr. Wrigley ball park. The other part of the great crowd, however were jolted badly and recovered too late to enter any protest.

From the first bell and for 7 straight rounds Lomski was hell-bent on a knockout and shot nothing but right hands in rapid succession at the Tiger's papier-mache chin which was well protected and bobbing out of danger. Going into the eighth, trailing in points, Leo changed his attack and pounded the Deacon in the bread basket and had him hanging on and sick. The ninth was the repetition of the eighth. The tenth opened with Lomski the stronger and his whirlwind finish caught the referee's eye.

Interest in the middleweight class is at its height with the promoters talking $100,000 gates. Among those striving for a shot at Mickey Walker and the said $100,000 are: Leo Lomski, Joe Anderson, Jock Malone, Bert Colima, Tiger Flowers and a raft of others.

The return of Ace Hudkins was short but sweet. The Wildcat took on the tough Billie Algers and showed all the dash and clash of old. In six months the Cat has grown to a natural welterweight with the sock of a middleweight. He always was good but oh how he has improved was the way one railbird expressed himself.

Mickey Walker made his first appearance, since winning the title, against Mickey Wallace at Fresno.

The Kid went down before to much class, meaning Harry Brown who was smothered with the punches of Jackie Fields. The Philly Kid was beaten in eight of the ten rounds. All that stands between Fields and the title is Jimmy McLarnin and Sammy Mandel.

Tod Morgan and his manager Frank Churchill motored into Los Angeles from New York. Tod immediately set out for his father's ranch for a visit and rest while Churchill got busy lining up work for other members of his stable.

Harry Kid Wagner is the latest member to join the Los Angeles Cauliflower Colony.

Mushy Callahan left Los Angeles in a rage all because the Boxing Commission refused to sanction a boost in the ante for his proposed battle with Harry Kid Brown. However Mushy's last stand at home resulted in a bad thumping for Joe Jawson, Milwaukee's ironman. Jawson's dogged determination and gameness made him dangerous all the way but he failed to take a round. One spectator dropped dead.

King Tut after dropping his first start in Los Angeles came back and stopped Danny Kramer in round 6 at Hollywood and held Tommy Cello to a draw at San Franciso. The King looks good enough to go against Tod Morgan.

Marty Mario, an importation of Jack Kearns, lost to Jackie Fields at Hollywood.

Baby Joe Gans put a crimp in Charlie Feraci's ambition to break into Los Angeles Colony. Gans won the decision after 10 monotonous rounds. On the same card Billie Bonalis a junior lightweight won from Ritchie King in 10.

Young Harry Wills by his sensational style has become quite a card in all the larger California centers.

Bert Colima stopped Johnny Burns the Oakland schoolboy at Hollywood. Burns, however is a fine looking prospect and should have no trouble in re-establishing himself.

Harry Kid Brown continued on his winning streak by lacing Johnny Adams. The Kid fought his usual smart fight but the battle was far from the sensation characteristic Johnny's former bouts in Los Angeles.

## BUFFALO NEWS

By HUGH SHANNON

Frankie Schoell, Buffalo's crack welterweight boxer, has been laid up the best part of the Winter season. Frankie has been suffering from neuritis in his left arm but the ailment has left him and he is again doing gym work in preparation for a busy campaign.

Art Weigand, southpaw light-heavyweight, is raising ructions in the 175 pound division. Art knocked out Al Rood in New York and also beat Murray Gitlitz in a ten rounder. Then he took on Mike Wallace in Buffalo and flattened Mike in two rounds.

A match between Weigand and Jimmy Slattery would arouse a lot of interest here with a good chance of smashing all gate records. Weigand is quite willing to make the match but not so with Slattery and his mentor, Red Carr. They have refused all offers to mingle with the left-handed mauler with the poison punch.

Nelson Crawford, the "Silent Knight" is manager of two good fighters in Johnny Holstein, St. Louis bantam and Virgil Kinkaid, Buffalo junior welterweight.

Holstein is winning steadily and recently beat Eddie Mischler, former amateur champion. Kincaid also looks like a comer.

Jimmie Mack, well known manager and trainer of boxers, has gone into the baseball business. Jimmie has been appointed trainer of the Buffalo International league club and will leave for the club's training quarters in Florida soon.

Tommy Ryan, Buffalo's best bantamweight, is working hard at Jimmy Goodrich's gymnasium, getting in tip top form for matches with Bud Taylor, Bushey Graham and Tony Canzonari, which loom up for February and March.

The Crescent Sporting Club with Hugh Shannon as matchmaker will soon be active in promoting boxing matches in the big Broadway auditorium in this city. Entrance into the promoting field will mean that the Crescent club will go after some high class matches and shows of the very best caliber will be staged.

Jimmy Goodrich, former lightweight champion, is doing light gym work but has not boxed since New Year's afternoon when he defeated Freddie Muller at the Broadway auditorium. Jimmy may box Billy Wallace here soon.

Rocky Kansas, another Buffalo lad and former champion is at Miami, Fla., taking things easy. Rocky has quit the game for good and, he has enough money to live comfortably. It will take a lot of persuasion to get him in the ring again.

Chet Thomas and Phil Jackson are two good negro fighters, who deserve a lot of work. Both are real club battlers and give the fans a run for their money. Jackson weights 150 and Thomas about 158. They are always in shape and ready for the best at their respective weights.

## CLEVELAND RING NOTES

By COY WILLIAMS

Johnny Risko, Cleveland's heavyweight baker boy, earned a draw with Chuck Wiggins of Indianapolis after a slugging 12-round battle. Risko centered his attack on Wiggins' stomach and almost won out, as Wiggins went to his corner at the fight a very sick man for a few minutes.

Chuck sent Risko to his knees in the twelfth with a body punch. It was the first time Risko had ever been down before a Cleveland audience.

Joe Lohman of Toledo lost to Pal Reed of Cleveland in a slow semi-final. Lohman, it was discovered afterward, has broken his hand early in the bout and had it put in a plaster cast before he left the hall.

The next main bout of Cleveland's winter season will bring together Johnny Farr, local featherweight contender, and Eddie Shea, the Chicago jumping jack.

Farr and Shea met here last December in the semi-final to the Billy Wallace-Kid Kaplan headliner and Farr won the decision of Tommy Reilly of Philadelphia. The newspapers, were unanimous, however, in calling Shea the winner. It was one of the best fights Cleveland has seen in years.

Jerry Sachs, local manager, is holding a series of shows at his gym to unearth some new amateur talent. He calls 'em "incubator shows," nobody being allowed to enter who has ever fought in the ring before. More than thirty knockouts developed in his first three shows, proving there is plenty of punch-power going to waste somewhere.

Bryan Downey, at one time one of the best middleweights in the game, is still in boxing, but as a referee and instructor now. He has a boxing school for business men and boys, as well as a stable of amateurs and professionals. He is a regular figure as referee in the Public Hall professional shows.

Johnny Kilbane, former featherweight champion, who runs a health farm during the summer, has started teaching a class of men and boys at a gym here. "There's too much slugging and not enough boxing these days," comments Johnny, who was in his prime one of the finest of boxers.

Billy Wallace, Cleveland lightweight, matched to meet Sid Terris in New York, has undergone an operation to eliminate a collection of pus near his right eye. His tonsils are also to be removed within a few days, which should cure Wallace of a succession of headaches and pains that have forced him to postpone bouts with Ray Mitchell in Youngstown and Bobby Tracy in Buffalo.

## WESTERN PENNA. NEWS

By JULES BECK

After just one half minute of fighting in what was scheduled to be a six round bout, Bobby Young flashy 130 pounder from Duquesne, won over Frankie Erne of Lancaster, Pa., at Detroit. The Lancaster man was sent to the canvas by a terrific right to the jaw and the referee tolled off the fatal ten.

Louis Kid Kaplan, retired featherweight champion, knocked out Paris Cangey of New Castle, Pa., in the fourth round of a scheduled ten-round bout at Rochester. Cangey is a mighty good boy at his poundage, but to my estimation he is being rushed too fast.

Willie Davies, Charleroi flyweight flash, outboxed Carl Cavelli of Canton, Ohio, in McKeesport on Thursday, Jan. 13th. Davies was awarded the decision after ten fast rounds. Cavelli reputed to be a knockout artist, proved that he can hit by stinging Davies a few with his right supposed to be haymakers. Davies was too clever for him and won with ease. Three other high close preliminaries rounded out the card.

Rudy Cedar of Tarentum won a decision over Bobby Richardson of Philadelphia at the Majestic Club McKeesport. The Quaker City lad scored several knockdowns in the third round and seemed to have the decision sewed up at the end of the scheduled 10th round, but the judges ruled otherwise and seemed to favor Cedar. In the other ten rounder K. O. Ferry scored a knockout over Teddy Welch also from McKeesport.

Pete Latzo showed Pittsburgh fistic patrons just why he is the Welterweight king at Motor Square Garden in Pittsburgh. Pitted against the veteran Jimmy Jones of Youngstown, who has seen his best days but still a good trial horse for champs or near champs. The Scranton coal miner won handily in a ten round setto that pleased every fan who saw it.

# Great Body Punchers

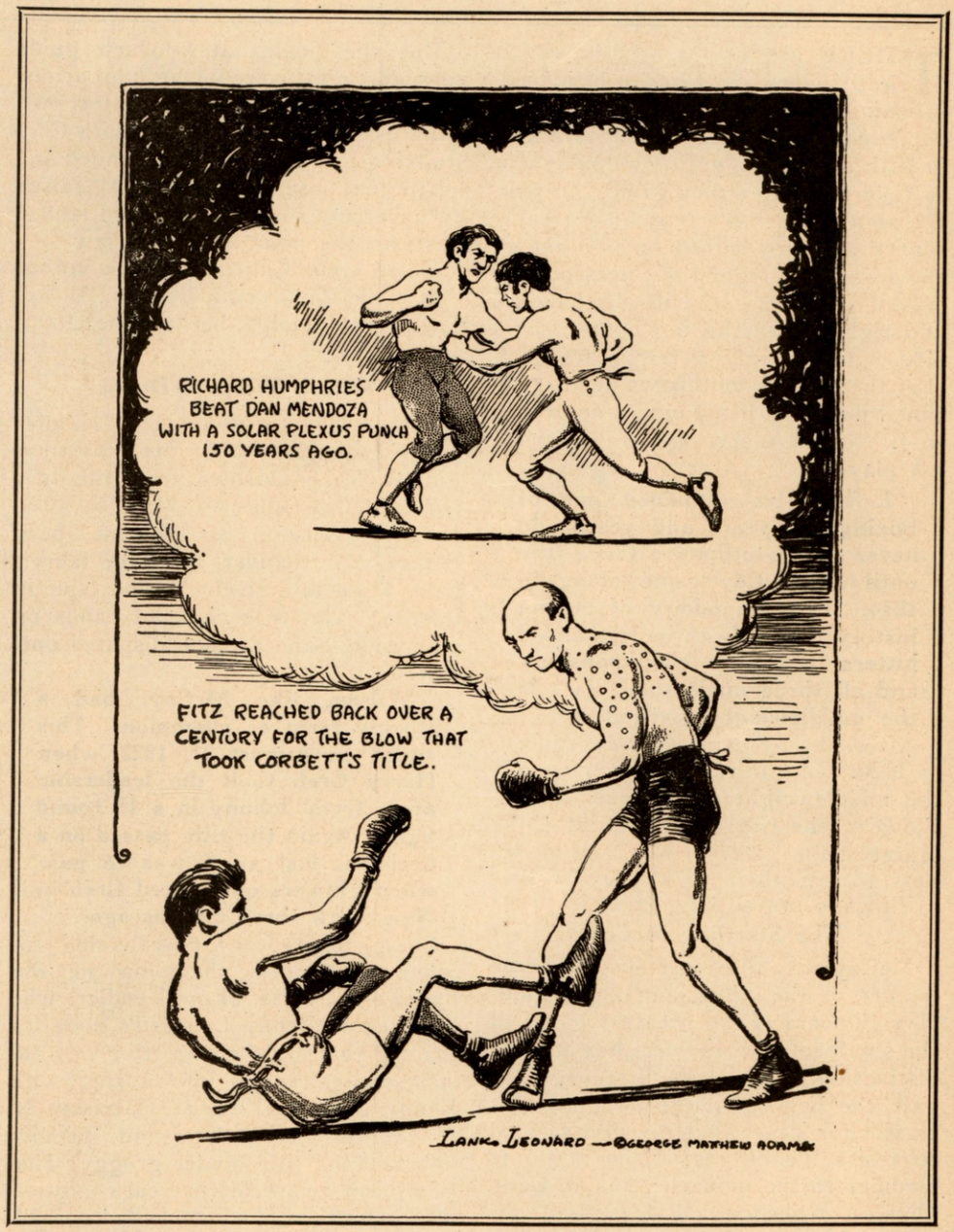
By JOHN L. (IKE) DORGAN

THE appearance of Paul Berlenbach in recent battles recalled to the veteran followers of boxing the good old days when great body punchers predominated. To those who have watched the boys of the present generation lose opportunity after opportunity to score a knockout by trying for a blow to the jaw when one to the stomach would turn the trick, Berlenbach's style of milling furnishes a real treat.

The trouble with the present day crop of fighters is that they ignore almost entirely the body. Regardless of how groggy they have their opponent, and no matter what punishing effect a body punch may have on their ring rival, the majority of the boxers nowadays play a continuous attack for the upper extremities when a few solid wallops to the mid-section would render an opponent helpless, and win the bout by the K. O. route. Bob Fitzsimmons was one of the greatest body punchers in modern history.

ROBERT DAVIS, internationally known editor and magazine writer, in his latest book, "Ruby Robert, Alias Bob Fitzsimmons," published by George H. Doran Co., gives an extremely interesting account of Fitz's famous solar plexus blow and tells how Fitz traced his success to the body punishment he meted out to an opponent. In Fitz's days, a fighter to make a success of his profession, had to be a specialist in all branches and ring history fails to reveal the names of many fighters who were greater specialists than Ruby Bob.

Of the present day fighters, Paul Berlenbach and Jack Dempsey are the greatest body punchers.




WHILE on the subject of body punching and the solar plexus, it is interesting to note that in his story on "Ruby Bob" Mr. Davis devotes a chapter to "The Birth of the Solar Plexus by Fitzsimmons."

Though Jim Corbett was the first of the modern ring gladiators to suffer defeat through the solar plexus, "Gentleman Jim" was not the first in ring history to be battered into submission with it. In other words, Bob Fitzsimmons was not the first to employ the use of the solar plexus, although "Ruby Bob" was the first to gain world fame through it and to be acclaimed its originator.

In the story of the fight between Richard Humphries and Daniel Mendoza, the Jew, almost 150 years back, the records of that bout show that Humphries played in close and battered his opponent severely about the stomach and followed these blows by attacks to the face and jaw.

"On one occasion Humphries smashed his left to Mendoza's stomach and then quickly followed with the same blow to the jaw," is the report of one round. That is the description of the solar plexus knockout made famous by Fitz.

The above is only one of the many reports in early pugilism which show that the blows in which Ruby Bob specialized were known to ring history before they became famous through the prominence given the solar plexus by ringside reporters at the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight.

# Lefthanders Rare In Boxing

**Southpaws Have Risen To Only Three Titles, All in Middleweight Class.**

**By "LANK" LEONARD**

THERE are two sports in which lefthanders are rare birds indeed,—boxing and polo. The portsiders are supposed to have distinct advantages in both endeavors, yet they don't seem to take much to either game. In polo the southpaws were feared so greatly that they were barred on account of the so-called danger their presence involved in a match, with lefthanders and righthanders hitting on the same side. It was only a few years back that the ban on southpaws in international polo was lifted out of deference to J. Watson Webb, one of our greatest players.

**Lefthanders remained out of boxing for years and years and never did a southpaw attain a title until Al McCoy came along in 1914. It is an oddity of boxing history that only three lefthanded hitters have won championships, and all three made their rises in the middleweight division.**

After McCoy came Johnny Wilson, in 1920. The third lefthander to win the middleweight crown was "Tiger" Flowers, the negro, who wrested the laurels from Harry Greb last March only to lose them to Mickey Walker in Chicago not so long ago.

### The Startling McCoy

McCoy was the most startling title winner of the three, and unquestionably Flowers is the greatest boxer of the small coterie. Flowers has another distinction. He is the first negro to gain the heights in the middleweight class. For years that division seemed to resist the efforts of the negro to clamber to the pinnacle. Dixon, Gans, Dundee, Johnson, Walcott,—all attained titles, but Flowers was the first to win the mantle which had graced the shoulders of Nonpareil Jack Dempsey, Bob Fitzsimmons, Stanley Ketchel, Billy Papke, Tommy Ryan and Frank Klaus.

Al McCoy won the middleweight crown by knocking out George Chip in the first round in Brooklyn on April 7, 1914. Chip, a Greek born Chipulonis, had taken the title from Klaus and went into the ring against McCoy, a topheavy favorite. McCoy did not rate very high as a boxer or hitter and he looked like a setup for the hard hitting Spartan.

But the fickle fates which guide ring destinies were in an uproarious April mood that night. After two minutes of messing around, with Chip studying that awkward lefthanded and leftfooted pose of McCoy, Al raised an uppercut from his heels and landed flush on the point of Chip's jaw.

Down went Chip and in the uproar that made the arena a Bedlam, Al McCoy, born Rudolph, became the champion.

### Wilson Whips O'Dowd

After the knockout the middleweight division fell into disorder. Finally Mike O'Dowd took the title from McCoy and on May 6, 1920, Johnny Wilson, an Italian born Panica, a lefthander, took the laurels from Mike in a twelve round bout in Boston. The title changed hands on a decision,—and a much disputed one, at that.

**Wilson, like McCoy, had a stormy term as champion. This ended on August 21, 1923, when Harry Greb took the leadership away from Johnny in a 15 round fight. Again the title passed on a decision, just as it was to pass when Flowers outpointed Greb in New York three months ago.**

Boxing came very near having another lefthanded champion in the lightweight class. Lew Tendler, who knocked at Benny Leonard's door for several years without getting any response, finally got into a ring with Benny in July, 1923, at Harrison, N. J. In the seventh round Tendler knocked the title holder groggy. Had Lew been aware of the real condition into which he had rocked Leonard, the lefthander probably would have ended the fight then and there.

But the wily Leonard talked Tendler out of his chance. Benny taunted Tendler even as his knees sagged. Tendler later got another chance and this time Leonard rocked the Philadelphian all over the ring in the Yankee Stadium in New York.

### "Knockout" Brown's Career

Another "shortstop" who was a lefthander,—and a sensational one, too,—was Knockout Brown, who had a rather short but hectic career from 1908 to 1914. Brown came along like a house afire in the ten round, no decision days in New York but knockouts by Joe Rivers and Leach Cross ended his dream of titular glory. The loss of an eye forced him to quit fighting.

Still another "shortstop,"—and a lightweight, too,—was Eddie Fitzsimmons. Dan Morgan, who had piloted Brown and had been disappointed in his failure to mount the top, promised the world its first southpaw lightweight champion in Fitzsimmons but he fell short, and besides took on weight too fast.

Among the current boxing crop of lefthanders of outstanding class are Danny Kramer, Jackie Snyder and Lew Mayrs.

Righthanders dislike to meet lefthanders in the ring. The southpaws have an awkward style which a righthander finds mystifying. The southpaw's right foot is out and his right paw is extended.

To a starboard hitter that's all wrong.

---

## "THE STUFF"

By NORMAN DALY

*YOU'VE got to show your stuff, old man,*
*If you would finish strong;*
*A bluff may work a little while,*
*But not for very long.*
*A line of gab all by itself*
*Will never see you through;*
*You've got to show your stuff, old man,*
*And nothing else will do.*

*FIGHTING'S pretty stiff, old man,*
*I'll tell the world it's rough;*
*But if you're out to win the bout*
*Don't think you can on bluff.*
*Along the way there's many wrecks*
*Who tried to bluff the rest;*
*You've got to show your stuff, old man,*
*If you would meet the test.*

---

## HE COULDN'T ANSWER

*A SPEAKER gave a lecture that*
*For eloquence knocked others flat;*
*He spilled all kinds of fancy words*
*And imitated bees and birds.*
*And when his lecturefest was o'er*
*He called for questions from the floor.*
*Then piped a man, a white-faced chap,*
*"What happened in the Wills and Dempsey scrap?"*

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